

Kentucky Juvenile Crime Analysis: 2007

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Kentucky Juvenile Crime Analysis

Table of Contents

I.	Overview	5
II.	The Context for Juvenile Crime	6
III.	Juvenile Offenses.....	10
IV.	Processing and Disposing of Juvenile Offenses	32
V.	Placement of Committed and Probated Youth	52
VI.	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.....	61
VII.	Recommendations for Improving Future Analyses	66

The 2007 Juvenile Crime Analysis was made possible through data extraction and integration processes that relied on information from a number of state government agencies and data systems. In general, the report represents data for a four year time span: Calendar Years 2003 through 2007.

The authors express appreciation to the collaborating agencies.

List of Illustrations

Figure 1.	Rate of Child Poverty by County 2005	Page 6
Figure 2.	Median Household Income by County 2005	Page 7
Figure 3.	CTBS Reading Scores 2005	Page 8
Figure 4.	School Dropout Rate 2005	Page 8
Figure 5.	Rate of Child Physical Abuse 2007	Page 9
Figure 6.	Rate of Child Neglect 2007	Page 9
Figure 7.	Rate of Juvenile Violent Crimes (2006)	Page 12
Figure 8.	Index of Juvenile Property Crimes (2006)	Page 12
Figure 9.	Index of Juvenile Drug-related Crimes (2006)	Page 13
Figure 10.	Index of Juvenile Weapons Crimes (2006)	Page 13
Figure 11.	Juvenile Arrests Part I Crimes & Weapon and ATOD Violations 2003-2007	Page 14
Figure 12.	Juvenile Arrests: Part I and Part II Crimes 2003 - 2007	Page 15
Figure 13.	Rate of Part I Crime Juvenile Arrest (2006)	Page 20
Figure 14.	Rate of Part II Crime Juvenile Arrest (2006)	Page 20
Figure 15.	School-Based Part I Law Violations 2003 - 2007	Page 21
Figure 16.	School-Based Part II Law Violations 2003 - 2007	Page 21
Figure 17.	AOC Charges by Type (2002-2007)	Page 23
Figure 18.	Juvenile Crime (2002-2007)	Page 23
Figure 19.	Top Ten Public (Delinquent) Charges (2002-2007)	Page 24
Figure 20.	Top Ten Juvenile Charges by Year (2002-2007)	Page 25
Figure 21.	Top Ten Juvenile Delinquent Charges by Gender 2002-2007	Page 27
Figure 22.	Top Ten Delinquent Charges by Race (2002-2007)	Page 28
Figure 23.	Status Charges by Gender (2002-2007)	Page 28
Figure 24.	Status Charges by Race (2002-2007)	Page 29
Figure 25.	Handgun Charges by Gender and Year (2002-2007)	Page 30
Figure 26.	Juvenile Handgun Charges by Race and Year (2002-2007)	Page 31
Figure 27.	Number of Handgun Charges (2007)	Page 31
Figure 28.	CDW Diversions & Petitions (excluding dismissals) (2002-2007)	Page 33
Figure 29.	CDW Diversions & Petitions by Gender (2002-2007)	Page 33
Figure 30.	CDW Diversions & Petitions by Age (2002-2007)	Page 34
Figure 31.	CDW Diversions & Petitions by Race (2002-2007)	Page 34
Figure 32.	Percent of Dismissals by County (2007)	Page 35
Figure 33.	Percent of Successful Diversions by County (2007)	Page 35
Figure 34.	ATOD Diversions by Age (2002-2007)	Page 38
Figure 35.	ATOD Diversions by Race (2002-2007)	Page 38
Figure 36.	ATOD Diversions by Gender (2002-2007)	Page 39
Figure 37.	Detention Bookings by Charge Types(2002-2007)	Page 40

Figure 38.	Detention Bookings by Gender and Charge Type (2002-2007)	Page 40
Figure 39.	Detention Bookings by Charge Type and Age (2002-2007)	Page 41
Figure 40.	Bookings in DJJ Detention Facilities by Age Range (2002-2007)	Page 41
Figure 41.	Bookings in DJJ Detention Facilities by Race (2002-2007)	Page 42
Figure 42.	Jefferson County Intakes by Program (2003-2007)	Page 43
Figure 43.	Jefferson County Age Ranges at Intake (2003-2007)	Page 43
Figure 44.	Racial and Gender Characteristics of Jefferson Co. Placements (2003-2007)	Page 44
Figure 45.	Jefferson County Detention Discharge Reasons (2003-2007)	Page 45
Figure 46.	Commitment Dispositions by Race and Ethnicity (2003-2007)	Page 46
Figure 47.	Probation Dispositions by Race and Ethnicity (2003-2007)	Page 47
Figure 48.	Dismissal Dispositions by Race and Ethnicity (2003-2007)	Page 47
Figure 49.	Confinement Dispositions by Race and Ethnicity (2003-2007)	Page 48
Figure 50.	Judicial Discretion Dispositions by Race and Ethnicity (2003-2007)	Page 48
Figure 51.	2007 Committed Youth by County of Residence	Page 51
Figure 52.	2007 Probated Youth by County of Residence	Page 51
Figure 53.	DJJ Placement Types for Committed and Probated Youth by Year (%)	Page 52
Figure 54.	Placement Type of DJJ Committed and Probated Youth by Year (Number)	Page 54
Figure 55.	Placement of DJJ Committed and Probated Youth by Age Range (2003-2007)	Page 54
Figure 56.	Racial Representation by Placement (Committed and Probated Youth, (2007)	Page 55
Figure 57.	ATD by Type of Service	Page 56
Figure 58.	ATD by Gender	Page 56
Figure 59.	ATD by Race	Page 57
Figure 60.	ATD by Reason for Discharge	Page 58
Figure 61.	ATD by Charge Status	Page 59
Figure 62.	ATD by Court Status	Page 59
Figure 63.	ATD by Success	Page 60
Figure 64.	Community Mental Health Centers by Region	Page 61
Figure 65.	Number of Youth Receiving CMHC Substance Abuse Services: 2005-2007	Page 62
Figure 66.	Number of Youth (10-17) Receiving CMHC Services by Program 2007	Page 64
Figure 67.	CMHC Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services for DJJ Youth 2005-2007	Page 64
Figure 68.	CMHC Services to DJJ Youth by Program 2005-2007	Page 65

List of Tables

Table 1.	State Juvenile Arrest Rates (per 100,000 persons)	Page 10
Table 2.	Definition of Part I Crimes	Page 13
Table 3.	Number of Part I Crime Juvenile Arrest by County (2006)	Page 16
Table 4.	Number of Part II Crime Juvenile Arrest by County (2006)	Page 17
Table 5.	Rate of Part I Crime Juvenile Arrest by County (2006)	Page 18
Table 6.	Rate of Part II Crime Juvenile Arrest by County (2006)	Page 19
Table 7.	Top 10 Public (Delinquent) Charges (2005-2007)	Page 26
Table 8.	Successful CDW Diversions by Top 40 Offense Categories	Page 37
Table 9.	Number of Youth Committed and Probated to DJJ in 2007 by Home County	Page 50
Table 10.	Description of DJJ Dispositions	Page 53
Table 11.	Table of Explanation of CMHC Substance Abuse Services	Page 63
Table 12.	Description of Mental Health Services for DJJ Youth	Page 68

I. Overview

The 2007 Juvenile Crime Analysis for Kentucky was conducted by David May and Yanfen Chen at Eastern Kentucky University. The purpose of this analysis was to update the 2006 Juvenile Crime Analysis that was submitted to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention by the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice with data from 2007. As outlined in the 2006 report (May & Chen, 2008), the purposes of the Juvenile Crime Analysis are to:

- Delineate the needs and problems of juveniles entering the system;
- Describe trends in populations served;
- Understand complex relationships between persons served, disposition, service delivery and outcomes; and
- Produce information in a manageable format.

As in the 2006 report, the data used in this analysis were retrieved from a number of state and national data bases. These data sources included:

- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Sourcebook
- State Data Center (census, KIDS Count)
- State Police (Crime in Kentucky report)
- Administrative Office of the Courts
 - ✓ Court Designated Worker (CDW) data base
 - ✓ Juvenile Court Involvement (arrest and disposition)
- Department of Education
- Kentucky Center for School Safety
- Department of Community Based Services (child abuse and neglect)
- Department for Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services (mental health and substance abuse services)
- DJJ Detention data base
- DJJ Juvenile Offender data base (JORI)

In this report, we continue the efforts from the 2006 analysis to obtain agency-specific information relevant to juveniles at risk of (or involved in) delinquent behavior and to connect the various data sources and trends for DJJ youth. DJJ staff provided statewide cumulative data on bookings and placements while the Department for Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services provided aggregate data regarding mental health and substance abuse services for DJJ youth. The Administrative Office of the Courts provided individual level data to create tables pertaining to specific charges and outcomes throughout the state. Statewide data were obtained from the remaining agencies to provide context for the arrests, charges, and outcomes presented throughout the report.

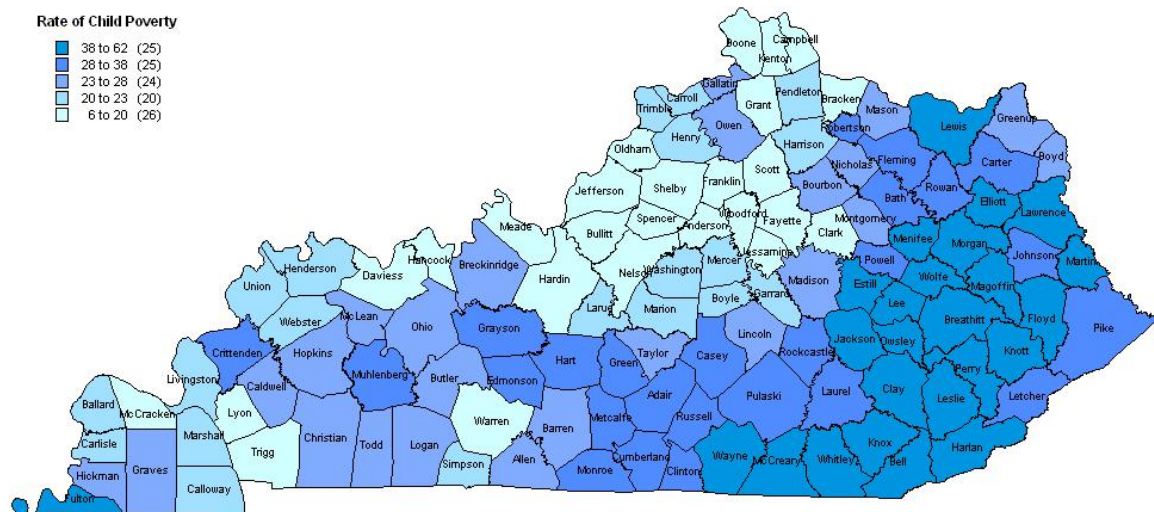
II. The Context for Juvenile Crime

Given that all delinquency and subsequent reactions to delinquency occur in the context of the larger community, it is important to understand community contextual factors. We begin with a look at two county-level demographic variables that have traditionally been associated with juvenile crime: child poverty rate and county median household income. Rates for both these variables are plotted at the county level in **Figures 1 and 2**.

Poverty and Family Functioning

Indicators of low socioeconomic status can be found in a variety of public sources, including the census, government services, and health databases. The results presented in **Figure 1** depict the child poverty rate by county. The child poverty rate is defined as the percentage of children who live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (KIDS Count, 2008). Counties with higher child poverty rates are depicted in darker blue colors. It is clear that child poverty rates are much higher in the eastern counties than in the other parts of the state.

Percentage of Children in Poverty by County - 2005

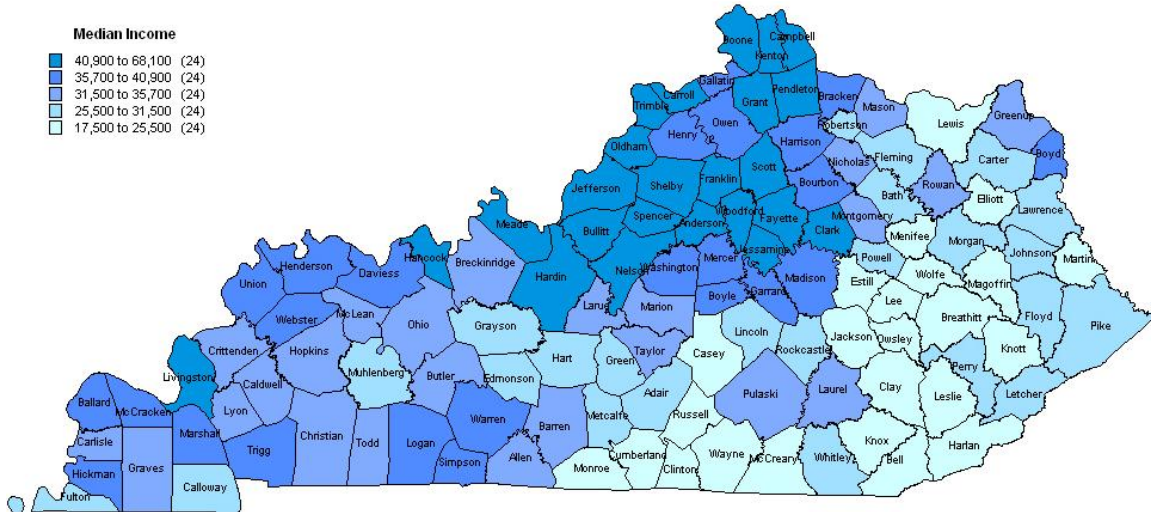


Source: 2008 Kentucky KIDS COUNT Data Book

Figure 1

The results presented in **Figure 2** depict the county level median-household income. A comparison of **Figures 1** and **2** indicates dramatic differences by region on measures of county level economic strength; again, counties in eastern Kentucky have much lower median household income levels than their counterparts in other regions throughout the state.

Median Household Income by County - 2005



Source: 2008 Kentucky KIDS COUNT Data Book

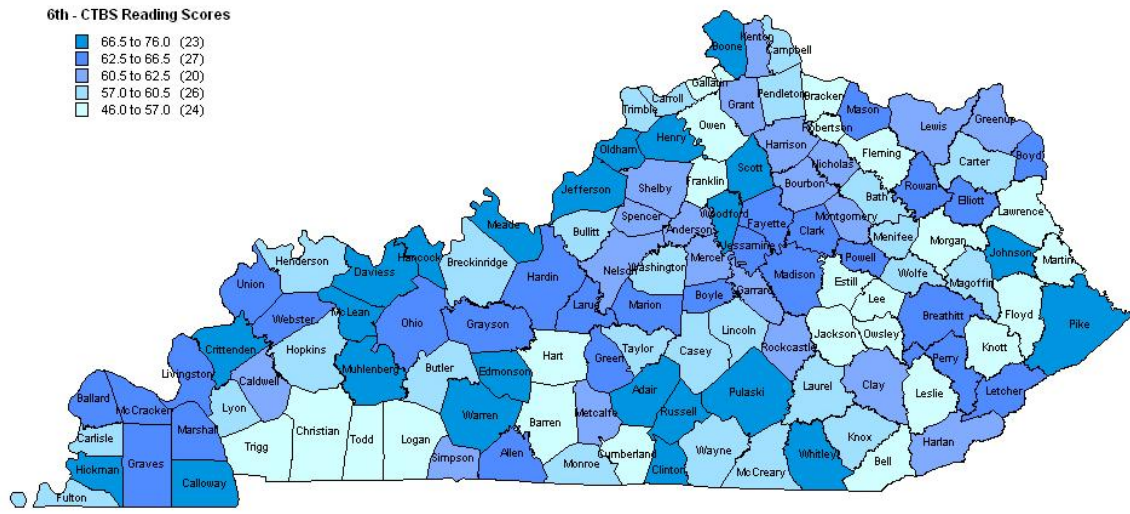
Figure 2

School Bonding and Achievement

Research on risk and protective factors associated with delinquency reveals that children who do well in school, and who feel a connection with the school, are less likely to engage in criminal behavior. Similarly, long term risk factors for juvenile violence include academic failure, low commitment to school, and low school attachment (see R.E.A.C.H., 2005 for review).

The next two maps (**Figures 3 & 4**) use data from the Kentucky Department of Education. Information on Kentucky's 176 school districts was collapsed into data elements on each of the 120 counties. In counties with more than one school district, a county Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills (CTBS) score was calculated by estimating by using the district CTBS scores to calculate an average CTBS score for the county. The results presented in the first map (**Figure 3**) depict county-level scores on the reading portion of the sixth grade level of the Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills (CTBS) test given to students throughout the state of Kentucky. Children who reside in the dark blue counties have, on average, the highest reading scores. Conversely, children in the lightest shaded counties have, on average, the lowest 6th grade reading scores. The data presented here indicate limited regional patterns regarding CTBS test scores.

CTBS reading scores: Exiting primary level (Grade 6) - 2005

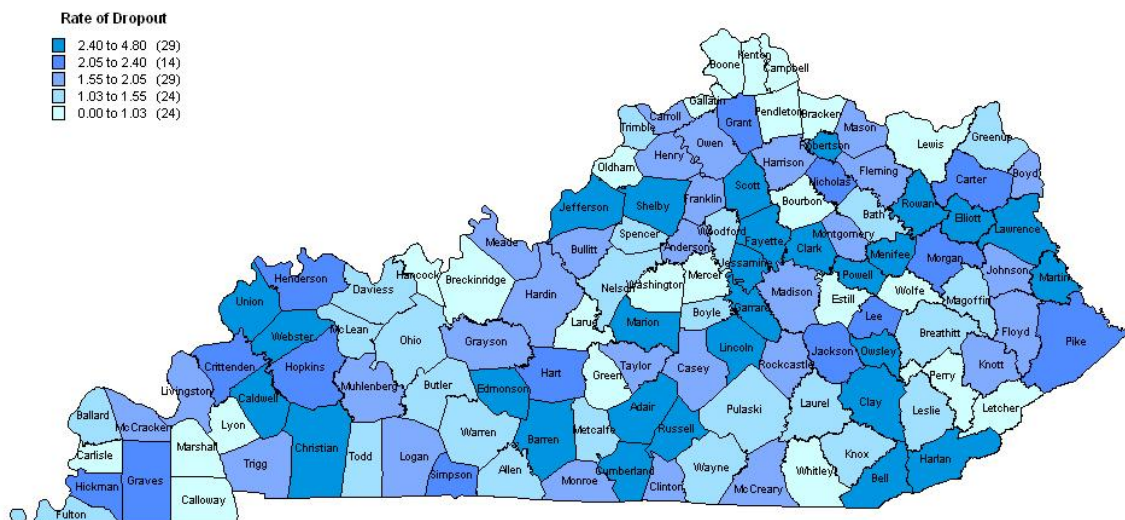


Source: Kentucky State Data Center, KY Dept of Education

Figure 3

The data presented in **Figure 4** portray the county school dropout rates. A student is counted as a dropout in Kentucky if they were enrolled in school at some time during the previous year and: (a) was not enrolled at the beginning of the current school year; (b) had not graduated from high school or some other educational program; and (c) did not transfer to another district, was not temporarily absent due to suspension, and had not passed away (Luallen, 2006). The counties shown in dark blue have the highest percentage of youth who drop out of school before their high school graduation. Interestingly, little correlation exists between county-level CTBS scores and county-level dropout rate.

County-level School Dropout Rates - 2005



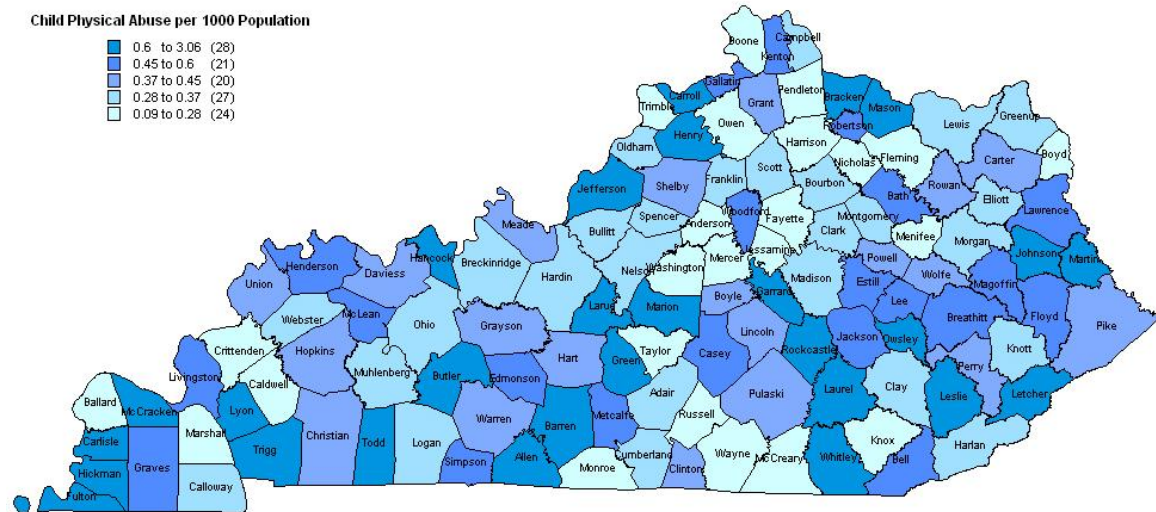
Source: Kentucky State Data Center, KY Dept of Education

Figure 4

Family Violence

As the 2006 report indicated, child neglect and abuse are also associated with delinquency at both state and national levels. The data presented in the next two maps (**Figures 5 & 6**) utilize information from 2008 Kentucky KIDS COUNT Data Book from the Kentucky Youth Advocates to reveal the child abuse and child neglect rates (rate per 1000 population). As with the prior socioeconomic factors, these problems are concentrated much more heavily within the eastern Kentucky counties. Presumably, the rate of neglect experienced among children in these counties is related to the poverty that exists within this area of the Commonwealth.

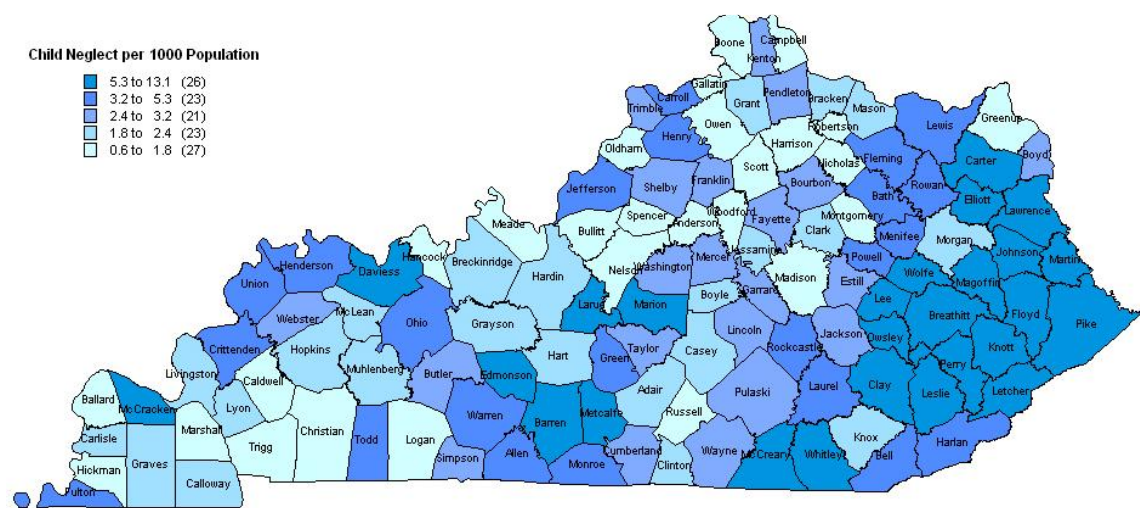
Rate of Child Physical Abuse (per 1000 Population) - 2007



Source: 2008 Kentucky KIDS COUNT Data Book

Figure 5

Rate of Child Neglect (per 1000 Population) - 2007



Source: 2008 Kentucky KIDS COUNT Data Book

Figure 6

III. Juvenile Offenses

A Comparison to Other States

Information from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) was used to compare the rate of juvenile crime in Kentucky to other states. The most recent data available were from 2006; as such, the data presented in **Table 1** and **Figures 7-10** depict juvenile violent crime rates for that year.

Table 1: 2006 State Juvenile Arrest Rates (per 100,000 persons)*

<i>State</i>	<i>Violent Crime Index</i>	<i>Property Crime Index</i>	<i>Drug Abuse</i>	<i>Weapons</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Violent Crime Index</i>	<i>Property Crime Index</i>	<i>Drug Abuse</i>	<i>Weapons</i>
Alaska	218	1,622	314	99	Montana	NA	NA	NA	NA
Alabama	141	592	263	37	North Carolina	287	1,331	454	214
Arkansas	239	1,217	445	77	North Dakota	69	1,595	399	70
Arizona	240	1,394	767	80	Nebraska	106	1,892	638	91
California	389	1,034	496	214	New Hampshire	90	886	618	17
Colorado	220	1,573	738	149	New Jersey	362	881	695	217
Connecticut	403	1,128	543	119	New Mexico	266	1,002	618	196
Dist. of Columbia	NA	NA	NA	NA	Nevada	213	1,211	504	180
Delaware	607	1,491	862	171	New York	314	1,104	608	85
Florida	485	1,772	789	132	Ohio	194	1,064	432	94
Georgia	377	1,243	682	188	Oklahoma	201	1,179	473	101
Hawaii	218	1,092	360	36	Oregon	209	1,798	550	83
Iowa	263	1,676	396	42	Pennsylvania	468	1,046	543	150
Idaho	145	1,829	509	113	Rhode Island	143	893	461	131
Illinois	1,029	1,679	2,415	308	South Carolina	342	1,043	697	204
Indiana	147	1,408	477	34	South Dakota	27	417	171	14
Kansas	164	895	425	64	Tennessee	321	1,087	624	146
Kentucky	371	2,092	1,387	136	Texas	185	1,002	548	69
Louisiana	436	1,585	772	132	Utah	117	1,793	477	142
Massachusetts	362	502	387	46	Virginia	171	905	412	105
Maryland	583	1,890	1,173	256	Vermont	103	585	297	13
Maine	92	1,435	456	38	Wisconsin	297	2,583	839	261
Michigan	223	1,066	360	93	West Virginia	45	275	195	10
Minnesota	234	1,735	567	180	Wyoming	138	1,521	941	87
Missouri	341	1,650	703	127	Washington	237	1,695	490	145
Mississippi	135	1,006	518	124					

* To facilitate comparisons, states contiguous to Kentucky are highlighted within the table.

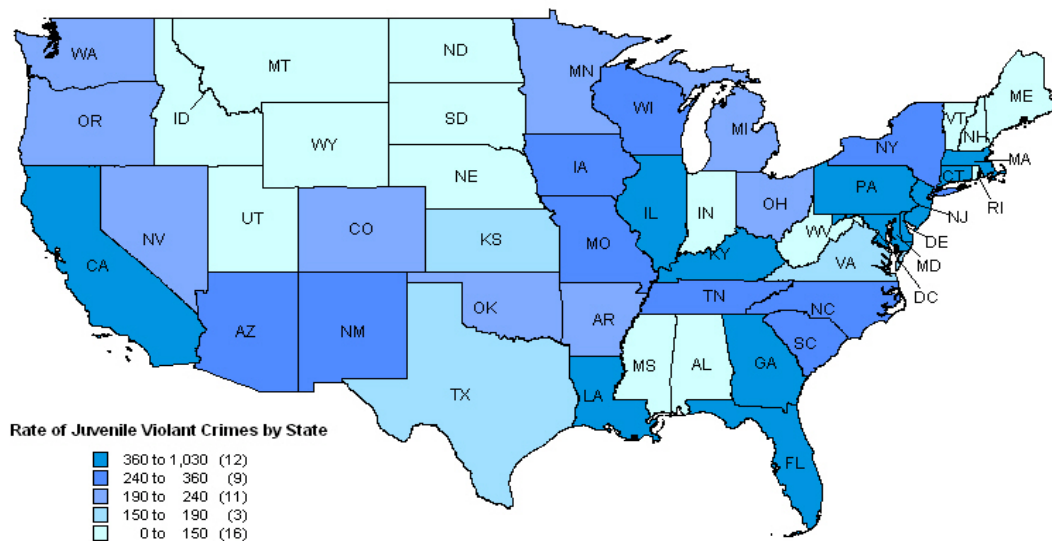
Violent Crime: Kentucky ranks 10th among the states on the violent crime index (371); nevertheless, this rate is comparable to the average rate of southern states (327). That rate in Kentucky is higher than rates in the bordering states of Indiana, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia but lower than the rates in the state of Illinois.

Property Crime: Kentucky ranks 2nd among the states on the juvenile property crime index (2092), a rate much higher than the average rate of the southern states (1270) and a rate that is also higher than any of its bordering states.

Drug Abuse: Kentucky ranks 2nd on the drug abuse rate (1387), a rate much higher than the average rate of the southern states (830). The drug abuse rate in Kentucky is lower than the rate of Illinois but higher than all the remaining border states.

Weapon Crime: Kentucky ranks 18th on the weapons crime rate (136); again, this rate is higher than the average weapon crime rates of southern states (120). The weapon crime rate of Kentucky is higher than the bordering states of West Virginia, Virginia, Missouri, Indiana and Ohio but lower than the rates of Tennessee and Illinois.

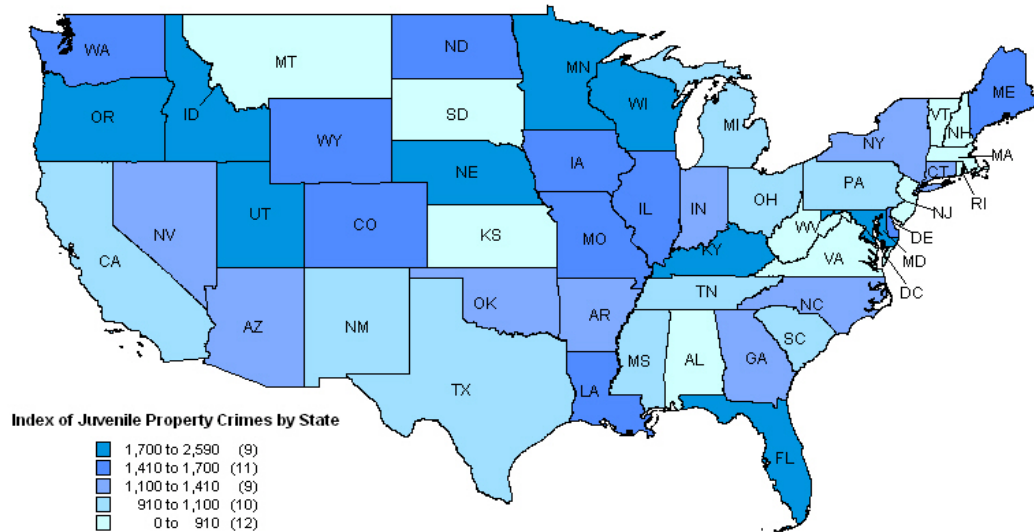
Rate (per 100,000) of Juvenile Violent Crimes (2006)



Source: OJJDP Statistical Source Book

Figure 7

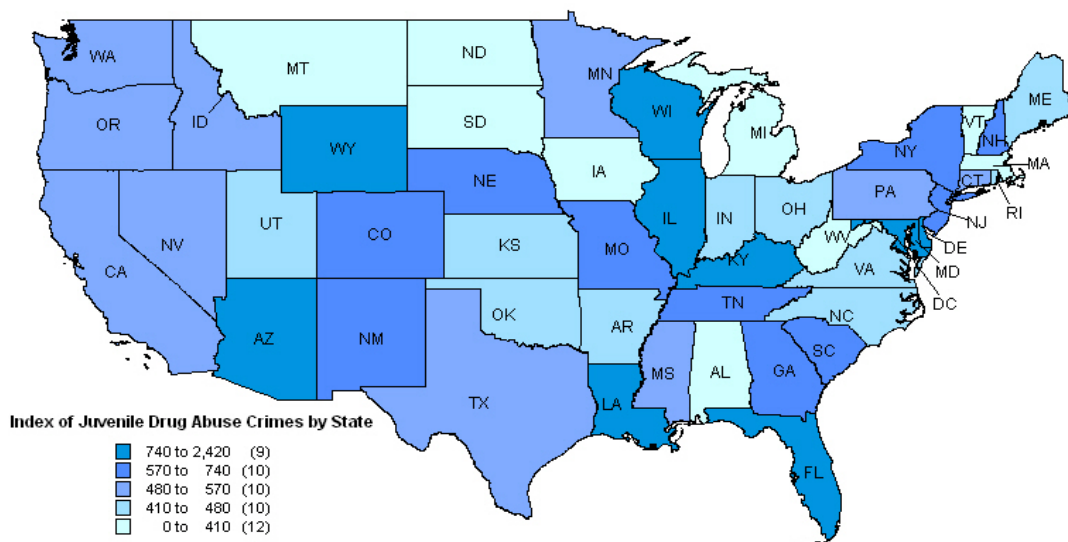
Index of Juvenile Property Crimes (2006)



Source: OJJDP Statistical Source Book

Figure 8

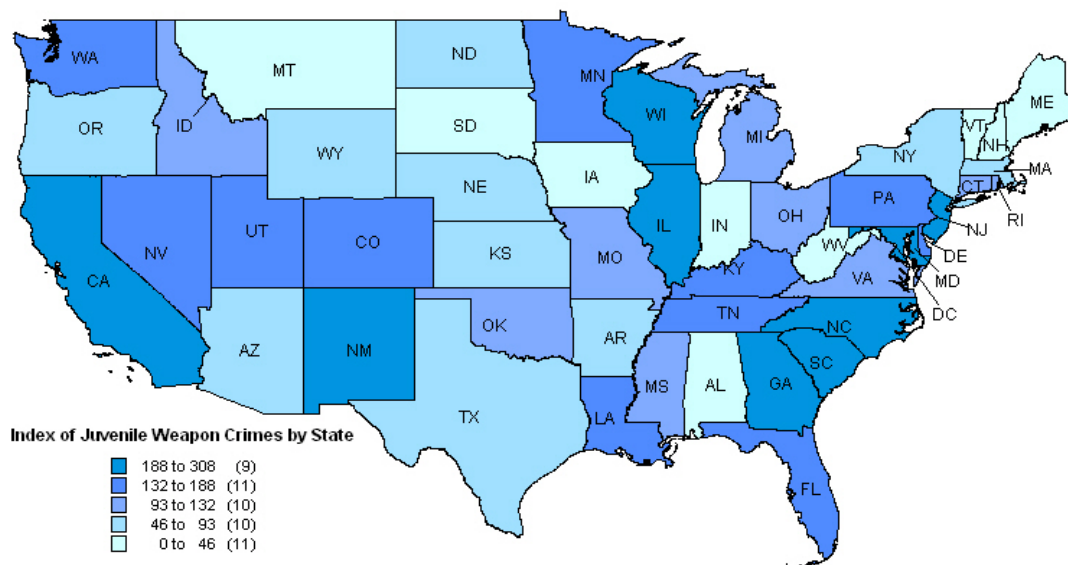
Index of Juvenile Drug-Related Crimes (2006)



Source: OJJDP Statistical Source Book

Figure 9

Index of Juvenile Weapon Crimes (2006)



Source: OJJDP Statistical Source Book

Figure 10

Offense Types and Trends among Kentucky Youth

Information about the types of offenses committed by juveniles and the trends in the occurrence of these acts was derived from three sources: the Kentucky State Police, the Kentucky Center for School Safety, and the Administrative Office of the Courts. All sources record Part I and Part II law violations. **Part I Law Violations** are the most serious offenses. The Part I Law Violations and the Kentucky definitions are listed below.

Table 2. Definition of Part I Crimes (from Kentucky State Police website)

Crime	Description
Murder	The unlawful killing of a human being with malice aforethought.
Forcible Rape	The forcible carnal knowledge of a person against the person's will.
Robbery	Felonious taking of the property of another by force, the threat of force, violence, and/or by putting the victim in fear.
Aggravated Assault	The unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury.
Burglary	The unlawful entering or remaining in a building with the intent to commit a crime.
Larceny-Theft	The unlawful taking of property or articles of value without the use of force, violence, or fraudulent conversion.
Auto Theft	All thefts and attempted thefts of vehicles.
Arson	Any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn (with or without

intent to defraud) a residence, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property, etc.

Juvenile Arrests 2003- 2007 Part I Crimes + Weapon and ATOD Violations

Source: Kentucky State Police Crime Facts

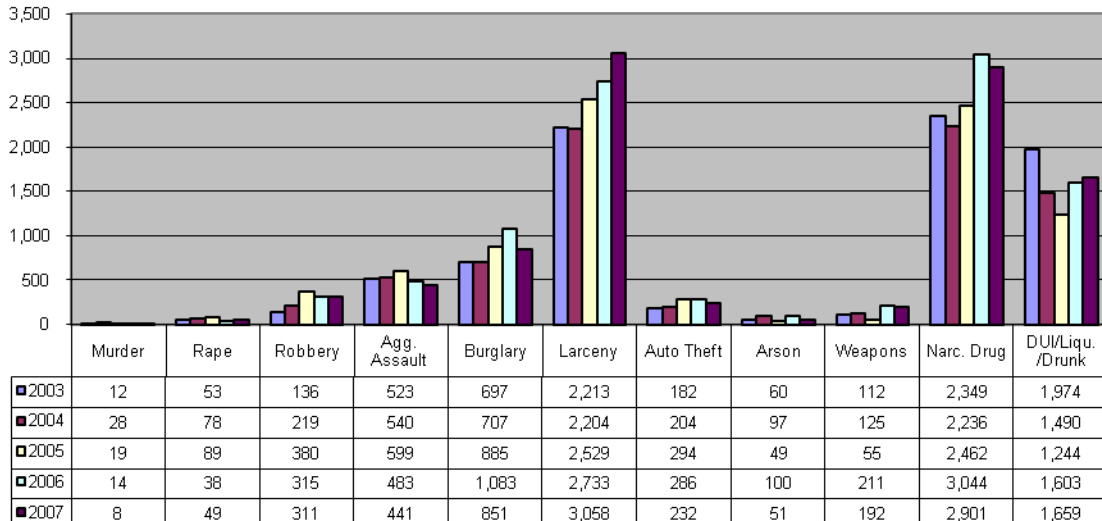


Figure 11

Figures 11 and 12 incorporate data collected by the Kentucky State Police from the approximately 400 law enforcement jurisdictions throughout Kentucky. The data presented in **Figure 11** depict five-year trends in Part I violations, along with weapons, narcotics, and DUI violations. The data suggest that (with the exception of murder, rape, aggravated assault, and arson) juvenile arrests for Part I violent, property, weapons, drug-, and alcohol-related crimes have risen steadily over the past five years.

Part II law violations are considered less serious offenses than Part I law violations. Part II law violations include (but are not limited to) crimes such as the following:

- Simple Assault
- Disorderly Conduct
- Drug Abuse
- Drunkenness
- Sex Offenses
- Stolen Property
- Weapons

The data presented in **Figure 12** depict three-year trends in juvenile crimes when all juvenile arrests for Part I and Part II offenses are considered. Juvenile arrests for both Part I and Part II crimes increased over the four-year period, with the increase for Part I crimes (23.9% over the four-year period) being somewhat smaller than the increase for Part II crimes (27.2% over the four-year period).

Juvenile Arrests: Part I and Part II Crimes 2004 - 2007

Source: Kentucky Crime Facts: KSP

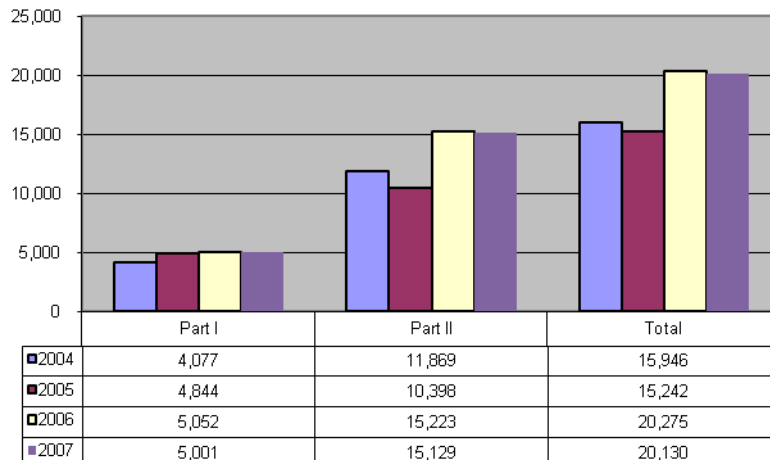


Figure 12

The data presented in **Tables 3 through 6** depict the number and rate of juvenile arrests for Part I and Part II law violations by county, with the data in **Tables 3 and 4** presenting the number of arrests by county and the data presented in **Tables 5 and 6** presenting the rate of juvenile arrests by county (to allow for county-level comparisons). The data presented in **Table 5** suggest that McCracken County had the highest Part I juvenile arrest rate (42.77), followed by Jefferson (29.58), Campbell (23.17), Ballard (17.31), and Carroll (17.04) counties. A number of counties had no juveniles arrested for Part I crimes in 2007. The data presented in **Table 6** indicate that Owsley county had the highest Part II juvenile arrest rate (592.36), followed by McCracken (167.89), Campbell (99.09), Lyon (74.6), and Boone (71.13) counties. All 120 counties had at least one arrest for Part II crimes in 2007.

Table 3. Number of Juvenile Arrests for Part I Crimes by County (2007)

County Name	Total for Part I Crime	Rank	County Name	Total for Part I Crime	Rank	County Name	Total for Part I Crime	Rank
Adair	4	73	Grant	22	22	McLean	1	100
Allen	11	43	Graves	40	16	Meade	8	57
Anderson	7	60	Grayson	6	64	Menifee	0	112
Ballard	14	36	Green	5	69	Mercer	15	34
Barren	7	61	Greenup	1	96	Metcalfe	2	91
Bath	9	51	Hancock	4	75	Monroe	4	77
Bell	15	32	Hardin	190	5	Montgomery	8	58
Boone	173	6	Harlan	22	23	Morgan	9	52
Bourbon	1	93	Harrison	6	65	Muhlenberg	8	59
Boyd	35	18	Hart	18	28	Nelson	35	20
Boyle	11	44	Henderson	12	41	Nicholas	4	78
Bracken	0	104	Henry	10	47	Ohio	4	79
Breathitt	5	67	Hickman	3	82	Oldham	28	21
Breckinridge	0	105	Hopkins	64	11	Owen	1	101
Bullitt	55	14	Jackson	8	56	Owsley	0	113
Butler	2	84	Jefferson	2,231	1	Pendleton	5	71
Caldwell	15	33	Jessamine	35	19	Perry	19	26
Calloway	13	38	Johnson	10	48	Pike	13	40
Campbell	220	4	Kenton	147	7	Powell	0	114
Carlisle	0	106	Knott	2	87	Pulaski	40	17
Carroll	19	25	Knox	13	39	Robertson	0	115
Carter	14	37	Larue	3	83	Rockcastle	2	92
Casey	17	29	Laurel	50	15	Rowan	7	62
Christian	125	9	Lawrence	0	109	Russell	11	46
Clark	11	45	Lee	1	97	Scott	0	116
Clay	8	54	Leslie	1	98	Shelby	56	13
Clinton	0	107	Letcher	5	70	Simpson	9	53
Crittenden	1	94	Lewis	0	110	Spencer	1	102
Cumberland	8	55	Lincoln	6	66	Taylor	21	24
Daviess	141	8	Livingston	0	111	Todd	7	63
Edmonson	3	81	Logan	4	76	Trigg	4	80
Elliott	1	95	Lyon	1	99	Trimble	5	72
Estill	4	74	Madison	85	10	Union	16	31
Fayette	342	2	Magoffin	2	88	Warren	15	35
Fleming	0	108	Marion	12	42	Washington	1	103
Floyd	2	85	Marshall	10	49	Wayne	0	117
Franklin	59	12	Martin	2	89	Webster	0	118
Fulton	2	86	Mason	10	50	Whitley	19	27
Gallatin	17	30	McCracken	292	3	Wolfe	0	119
Garrard	5	68	McCreary	2	90	Woodford	0	120

Table 4. Number of Juvenile Arrests for Part II Crimes by County (2007)

County Name	Total for Part II Crime	Rank	County Name	Total for Part II Crime	Rank	County Name	Total for Part II Crime	Rank
Adair	28	65	Grant	61	35	McLean	18	79
Allen	50	41	Graves	114	21	Meade	58	37
Anderson	52	39	Grayson	42	52	Menifee	10	98
Ballard	17	80	Green	31	60	Mercer	32	56
Barren	61	36	Greenup	12	92	Metcalfe	16	84
Bath	15	85	Hancock	22	70	Monroe	16	83
Bell	91	22	Hardin	544	8	Montgomery	14	87
Boone	970	3	Harlan	70	28	Morgan	8	99
Bourbon	5	107	Harrison	32	57	Muhlenberg	33	55
Boyd	154	16	Hart	69	30	Nelson	33	54
Boyle	18	77	Henderson	83	24	Nicholas	15	86
Bracken	5	108	Henry	31	59	Ohio	43	50
Breathitt	47	45	Hickman	2	116	Oldham	207	13
Breckinridge	32	58	Hopkins	146	18	Owen	17	82
Bullitt	180	15	Jackson	10	97	Owsley	279	10
Butler	28	66	Jefferson	3,814	1	Pendleton	36	53
Caldwell	46	48	Jessamine	61	34	Perry	49	43
Calloway	55	38	Johnson	62	33	Pike	73	26
Campbell	941	4	Kenton	817	5	Powell	3	115
Carlisle	7	104	Knott	11	93	Pulaski	131	20
Carroll	64	32	Knox	25	68	Robertson	2	118
Carter	17	81	Larue	19	76	Rockcastle	4	111
Casey	19	75	Laurel	196	14	Rowan	50	42
Christian	543	9	Lawrence	8	101	Russell	26	67
Clark	10	96	Lee	13	90	Scott	4	112
Clay	28	63	Leslie	21	72	Shelby	148	17
Clinton	11	94	Letcher	28	64	Simpson	48	44
Crittenden	12	91	Lewis	6	106	Spencer	22	71
Cumberland	8	100	Lincoln	23	69	Taylor	77	25
Daviess	568	7	Livingston	8	102	Todd	52	40
Edmonson	3	113	Logan	70	29	Trigg	18	78
Elliott	2	117	Lyon	47	47	Trimble	7	103
Estill	14	88	Madison	275	11	Union	30	61
Fayette	798	6	Magoffin	3	114	Warren	137	19
Fleming	1	120	Marion	71	27	Washington	1	119
Floyd	29	62	Marshall	85	23	Wayne	11	95
Franklin	263	12	Martin	14	89	Webster	20	74
Fulton	20	73	Mason	44	49	Whitley	65	31
Gallatin	42	51	McCracken	1,120	2	Wolfe	7	105
Garrard	47	46	McCreary	4	110	Woodford	5	109

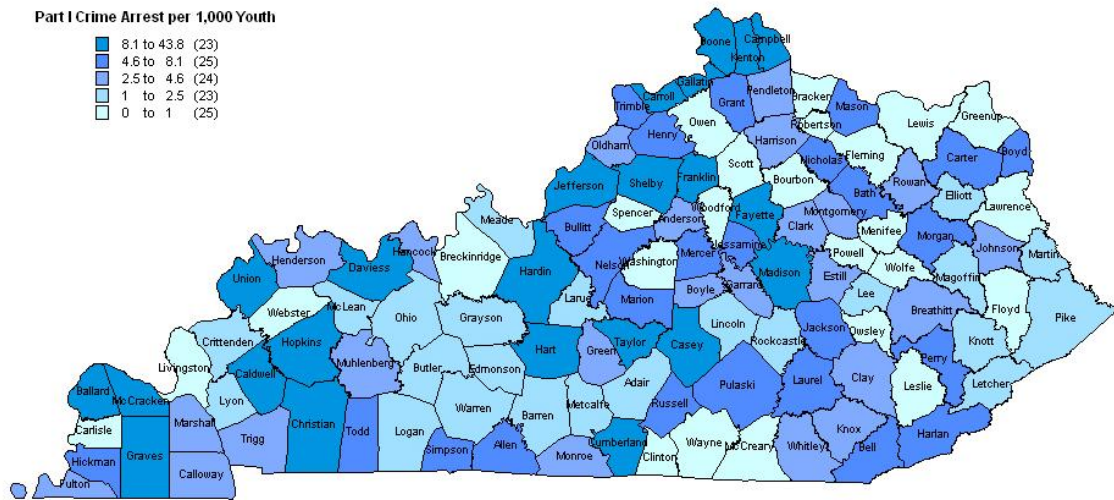
Table 5. Rate of Juvenile Arrests for Part I Crimes by County (2007) per 1,000 10-17 population

County Name	Rate for Part I Crime	Rank	County Name	Rate for Part I Crime	Rank	County Name	Rate for Part I Crime	Rank
Adair	2.22	76	Grant	7.27	27	McLean	1.01	95
Allen	5.22	43	Graves	9.91	19	Meade	2.29	74
Anderson	2.78	66	Grayson	2.23	75	Menifee	0.00	113
Ballard	17.31	4	Green	4.44	51	Mercer	6.29	36
Barren	1.60	83	Greenup	0.26	103	Metcalfe	1.82	81
Bath	7.34	26	Hancock	3.84	54	Monroe	3.35	58
Bell	4.99	45	Hardin	16.87	6	Montgomery	2.99	61
Boone	12.69	13	Harlan	6.50	33	Morgan	6.52	31
Bourbon	0.46	102	Harrison	3.01	60	Muhlenberg	2.60	70
Boyd	7.45	25	Hart	8.97	20	Nelson	7.05	28
Boyle	3.69	55	Henderson	2.54	71	Nicholas	5.61	40
Bracken	0.00	120	Henry	5.69	39	Ohio	1.67	82
Breathitt	2.75	67	Hickman	6.22	37	Oldham	4.18	53
Breckinridge	0.00	118	Hopkins	13.10	10	Owen	0.80	98
Bullitt	6.33	35	Jackson	5.45	41	Owsley	0.00	117
Butler	1.45	87	Jefferson	29.58	2	Pendleton	2.71	68
Caldwell	11.67	15	Jessamine	6.81	29	Perry	6.37	34
Calloway	4.49	49	Johnson	4.28	52	Pike	1.90	80
Campbell	23.17	3	Kenton	8.34	23	Powell	0.00	116
Carlisle	0.00	119	Knott	1.10	93	Pulaski	6.57	30
Carroll	17.04	5	Knox	3.57	56	Robertson	0.00	106
Carter	4.67	47	Larue	2.11	79	Rockcastle	1.16	92
Casey	9.94	18	Laurel	8.09	24	Rowan	3.54	57
Christian	12.03	14	Lawrence	0.00	110	Russell	6.51	32
Clark	2.87	64	Lee	1.41	89	Scott	0.00	107
Clay	2.94	62	Leslie	0.84	97	Shelby	12.78	11
Clinton	0.00	114	Letcher	2.13	78	Simpson	4.60	48
Crittenden	1.08	94	Lewis	0.00	108	Spencer	0.51	100
Cumberland	11.11	16	Lincoln	2.17	77	Taylor	8.82	22
Daviess	13.93	8	Livingston	0.00	115	Todd	5.16	44
Edmonson	2.40	73	Logan	1.33	91	Trigg	2.90	63
Elliott	1.37	90	Lyon	1.59	84	Trimble	4.78	46
Estill	2.51	72	Madison	11.06	17	Union	8.96	21
Fayette	13.61	9	Magoffin	1.42	88	Warren	1.47	86
Fleming	0.00	112	Marion	5.98	38	Washington	0.77	99
Floyd	0.48	101	Marshall	3.27	59	Wayne	0.00	105
Franklin	12.73	12	Martin	1.48	85	Webster	0.00	111
Fulton	2.83	65	Mason	5.42	42	Whitley	4.45	50
Gallatin	16.39	7	McCracken	43.77	1	Wolfe	0.00	109
Garrard	2.69	69	McCreary	0.96	96	Woodford	0.00	104

**Table 6. Rate of Juvenile Arrests for Part II Crimes by County (2007)
per 1,000 10-17 population**

County Name	Rate for Part II Crime	Rank	County Name	Rate for Part II Crime	Rank	County Name	Rate for Part II Crime	Rank
Adair	15.52	62	Grant	20.15	47	McLean	18.11	51
Allen	23.71	37	Graves	28.23	28	Meade	16.58	57
Anderson	20.67	45	Grayson	15.61	61	Menifee	13.79	68
Ballard	21.01	42	Green	27.56	30	Mercer	13.42	71
Barren	13.95	67	Greenup	3.16	108	Metcalfe	14.59	65
Bath	12.23	77	Hancock	21.09	40	Monroe	13.39	72
Bell	30.25	25	Hardin	48.31	11	Montgomery	5.23	102
Boone	71.13	5	Harlan	20.69	44	Morgan	5.79	100
Bourbon	2.29	113	Harrison	16.04	59	Muhlenberg	10.71	84
Boyd	32.8	20	Hart	34.38	18	Nelson	6.65	97
Boyle	6.04	99	Henderson	17.54	55	Nicholas	21.04	41
Bracken	5.16	103	Henry	17.64	54	Ohio	17.96	52
Breathitt	25.88	32	Hickman	4.15	106	Oldham	30.9	24
Breckinridge	15.81	60	Hopkins	29.88	26	Owen	13.63	70
Bullitt	20.72	43	Jackson	6.81	95	Owsley	592.36	1
Butler	20.35	46	Jefferson	50.57	10	Pendleton	19.52	48
Caldwell	35.8	16	Jessamine	11.86	80	Perry	16.43	58
Calloway	18.98	49	Johnson	26.56	31	Pike	10.65	85
Campbell	99.09	3	Kenton	46.36	12	Powell	2.14	114
Carlisle	13.73	69	Knott	6.05	98	Pulaski	21.53	39
Carroll	57.4	6	Knox	6.87	94	Robertson	8.06	92
Carter	5.67	101	Larue	13.37	74	Rockcastle	2.32	112
Casey	11.1	83	Laurel	31.72	23	Rowan	25.32	33
Christian	52.27	9	Lawrence	4.51	105	Russell	15.38	63
Clark	2.61	110	Lee	18.39	50	Scott	0.83	118
Clay	10.28	87	Leslie	17.72	53	Shelby	33.77	19
Clinton	12.17	78	Letcher	11.96	79	Simpson	24.55	35
Crittenden	12.93	76	Lewis	3.93	107	Spencer	11.12	81
Cumberland	11.11	82	Lincoln	8.33	90	Taylor	32.33	21
Daviess	56.1	8	Livingston	8.3	91	Todd	38.32	14
Edmonson	2.4	111	Logan	23.33	38	Trigg	13.03	75
Elliott	2.74	109	Lyon	74.6	4	Trimble	6.7	96
Estill	8.78	89	Madison	35.8	15	Union	16.81	56
Fayette	31.75	22	Magoffin	2.12	115	Warren	13.39	73
Fleming	0.62	120	Marion	35.36	17	Washington	0.77	119
Floyd	7.02	93	Marshall	27.83	29	Wayne	4.9	104
Franklin	56.73	7	Martin	10.39	86	Webster	14.07	66
Fulton	28.29	27	Mason	23.85	36	Whitley	15.23	64
Gallatin	40.5	13	McCracken	167.89	2	Wolfe	8.79	88
Garrard	25.28	34	McCreary	1.91	116	Woodford	1.89	117

Rate of Part I Crime Juvenile Arrest (per 1000 10-17 Population) - 2007

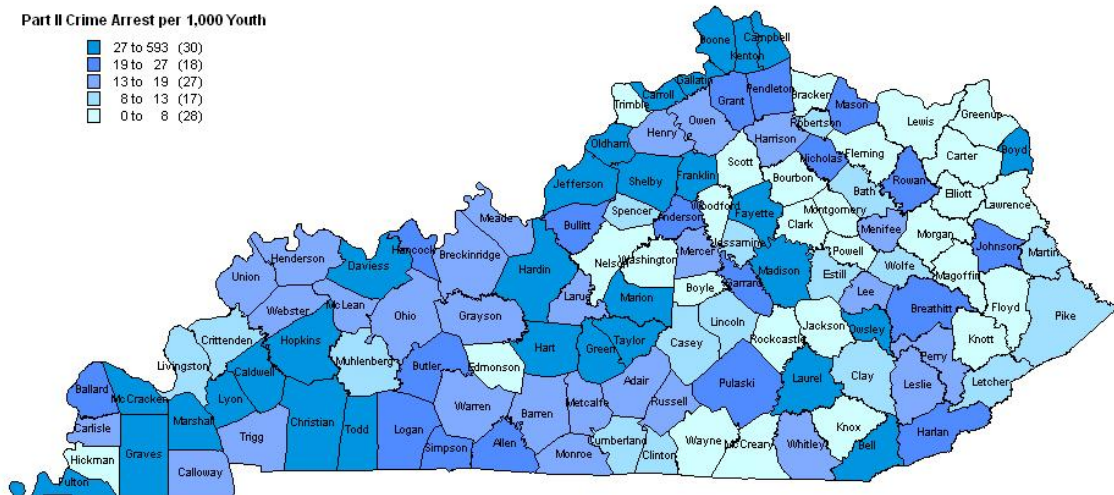


Source: Kentucky Crime Facts: KSP

Figure 13

The data presented in the maps in **Figures 13** and **14** reflect the rate of juvenile arrests for Part I and Part II crimes by county for 2006. With the exception of slightly higher rates for both Part I and Part II juvenile arrests in the extreme northern counties of Kentucky, there are few regional patterns in juvenile arrest rates for Part I or Part II crimes.

Rate of Part II Crime Juvenile Arrests (per 1000 10-17 Population) - 2007



Source: Kentucky Crime Facts: KSP

Figure 14

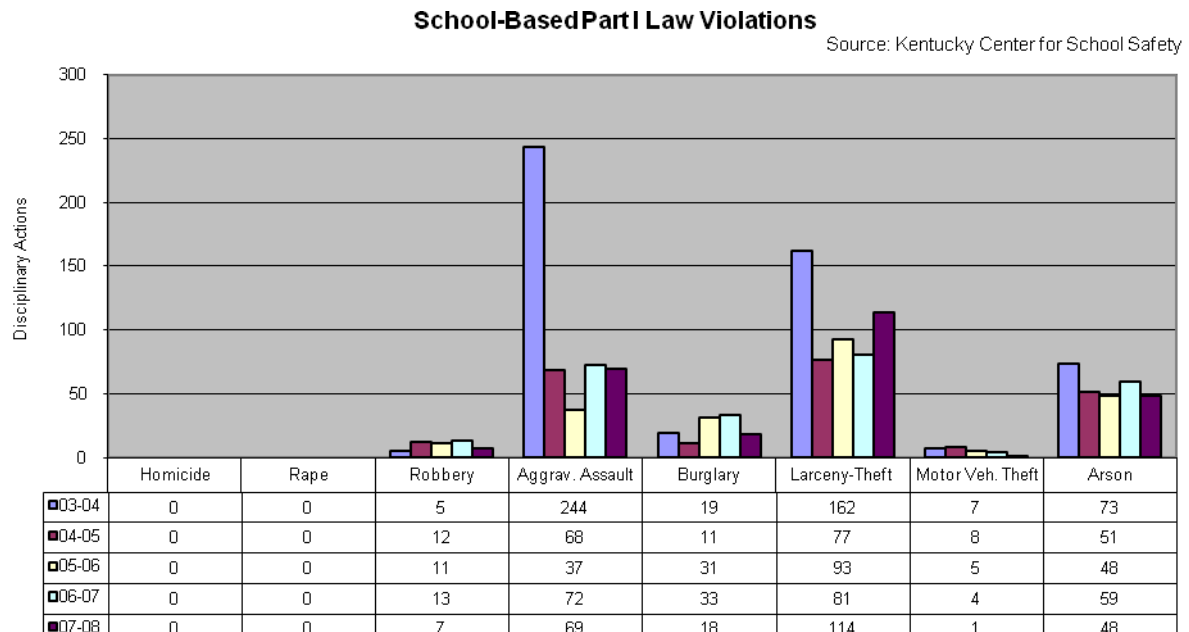


Figure 15

The results presented in **Figures 15** and **16** depict data obtained from the Kentucky Center for School Safety. The data presented in **Figure 15** depict five-year trends in the number of Part I law violations that occurred on school grounds or at a school-sponsored event while the results presented in **Figure 16** illustrate the five-year trend in Part II law violations at school. These data present a different picture from earlier trend data, in that there was a reduction in practically all of the Part I and Part II violations over the five-year period. As such, while arrests for juvenile crimes appear to be increasing in Kentucky, these law violations are generally occurring outside of school property and school events.

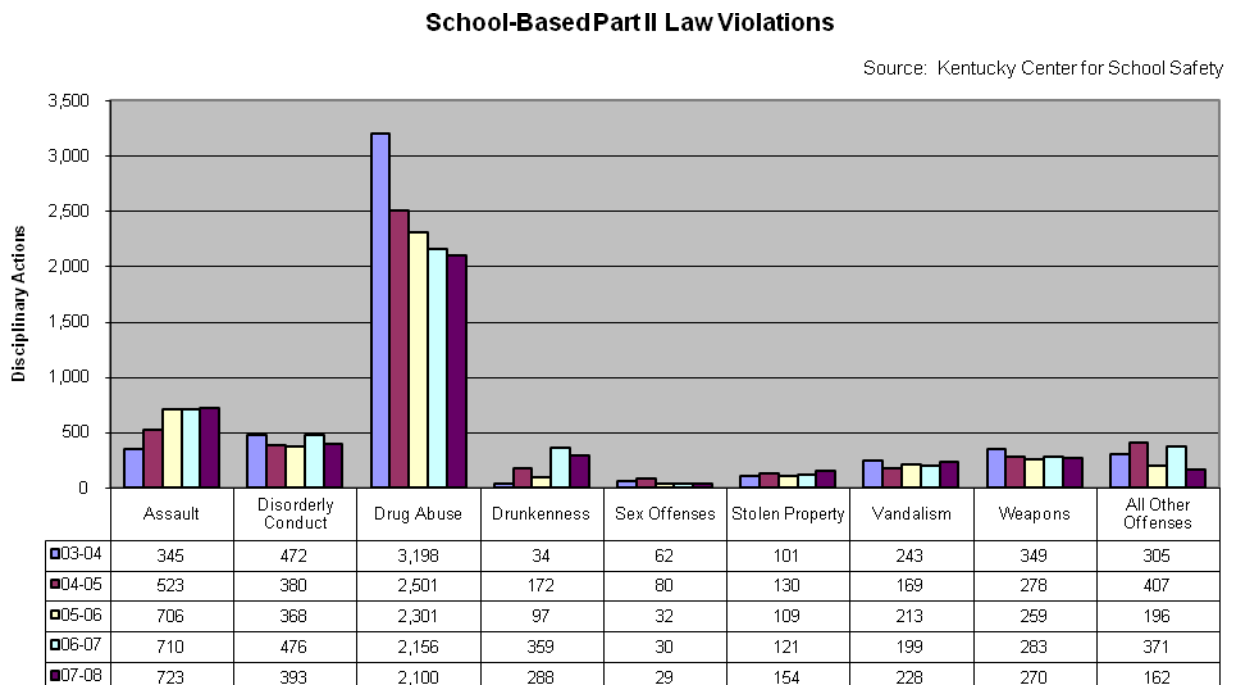


Figure 16a

School-Based Part II Law Violations (cont.)

Source: Kentucky Center for School Safety

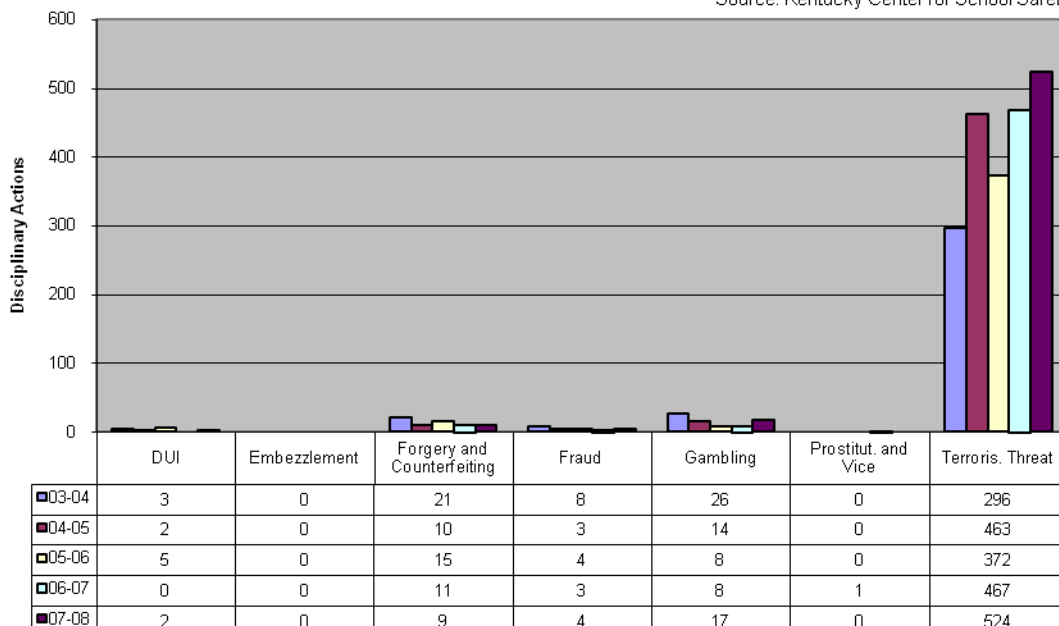


Figure 16b

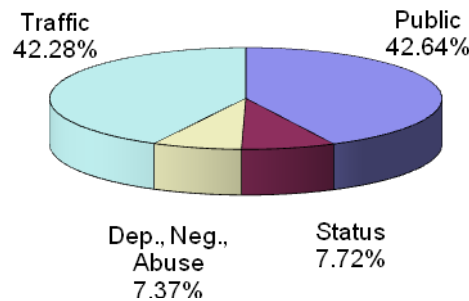
Administrative Office of the Courts Data

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) provides the most comprehensive database for understanding juvenile offenses in Kentucky. AOC data on all charges involving individuals under the age of 18 (at the time of the charge) for calendar year 2007 were provided to help in the compilation of the following charts. When possible, we combined the 2007 data with the data from the 2006 report to provide six-year trend data.

During the six-year period, AOC recorded 477,089 charges involving juveniles. These charges were based on 274,336 cases (or incidents). For example, during this period, one juvenile could be involved in more than one case (incident) during which there was law enforcement involvement. Each “case” could involve multiple charges; for example, a motor vehicle violation coupled with a drug possession charge.

Of the over 477,089 charges, slightly more than two in five involved delinquent (public) or status offenses (42.64%) or traffic offenses (42.28%). Over seven percent (7.37%) of the charges involved juveniles as the subject of abuse, neglect and dependency actions. These actions are listed in the database as DNA (Dependent, Neglected or Abused); and, typically, the involved youth are considered victims rather than offenders (**Figure 17**).

AOC Charges by Type (2002 - 2007)



Source: KY Administrative Office of the Court (AOC)

Figure 17

The following chart (**Figure 18**) disaggregates the number of charges within each of the four categories by year. Although the total number of charges and the number of charges for public offenses remained relatively stable over the six-year period, there was some fluctuation within categories, as the number of status offenses increased by 34.3% over the six-year period while the number of DNA charges increased 49.5% over the same period. Both the number of charges for public offenses and traffic offenses remained relatively stable over the six-year period, with public offenses increasing slightly (0.5%) and traffic offenses decreasing slightly (4.6%).

Juvenile Crime (2002-2007)
(Reflecting 477,089 Charges within 274,336 Cases for Youth)

Source: KY Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

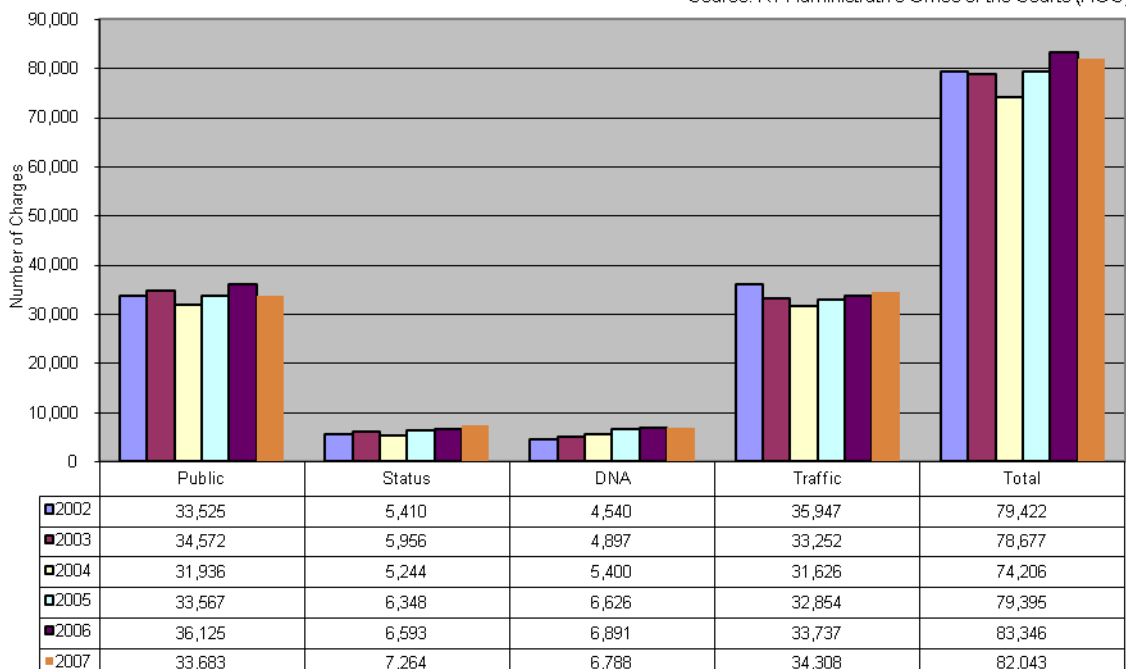


Figure 18

Public/Delinquent Offenses

In this subsection, one table and two graphs provide information about the top ten delinquent charges from 2002-2007.

In the first figure (**Figure 19**), data on the top ten offenses for the six-year period are presented (using percentages). During the six-year period, a larger proportion of youth were charged with contempt of court (slander/libel- resistance to judicial order) than any other charge (19.4% of top 10 charges). Juveniles typically are charged with this offense when they resist or disobey a judicial order (KRS 423.280). Disorderly conduct (13.5%), possession of marijuana (12.1%), and Theft by Unlawful Taking of items less than \$300 (11.4%) were the next most common charges. Three of the top ten charges received over the six-year period involved alcohol and other drugs; possession of marijuana (12.1%), use or possession of drug paraphernalia (5.6%), and alcohol intoxication 1st/2nd offense (5.0%).

Delinquent Offense: an offense which, if committed by an adult, would be a crime
Status Offense: any action brought in the interest of a child who is accused of committing acts, which if committed by an adult, would not be a crime. Status offenses include being “beyond the control of parents”, “beyond the control of school”, a “habitual runaway,” a “habitual truant,” and tobacco purchase by a minor (first and second offense).

Top Ten Public (Delinquent) Charges (2002-2007)

Source: KY Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

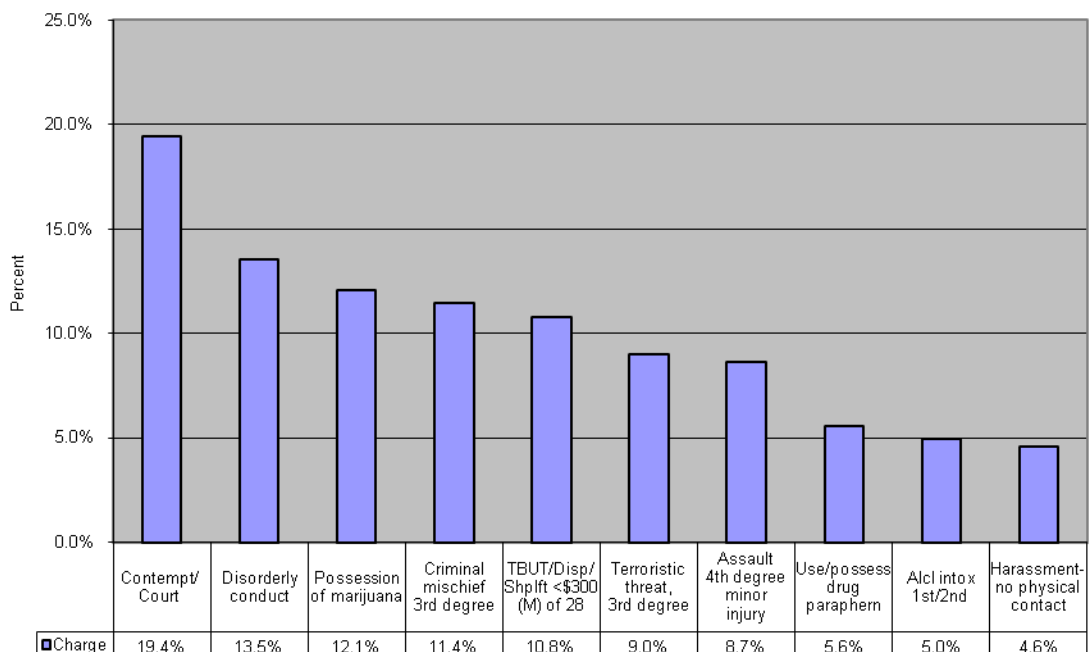


Figure 19

Figure 20 then indicates the top ten juvenile charges by year and by number (rather than percent). The most significant increase during the six-year period is for contempt of court charges.

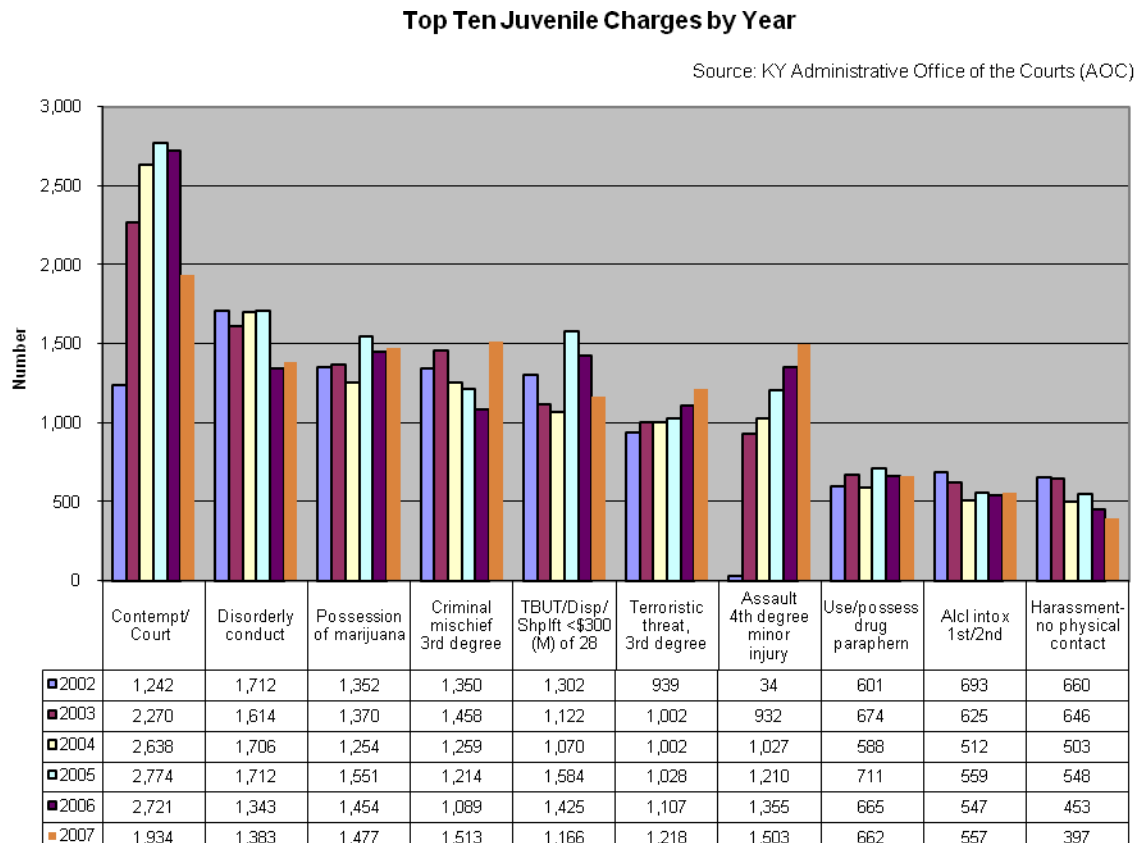


Figure 20

The 10 most frequently occurring charges for public offenses in the state are presented by year for 2005-2007 in **Table 7**. The results presented in the table suggest that contempt of court is the most frequent charge each year; with that caveat, the most frequent charges each year appear to change annually. Possession of marijuana, theft by unlawful taking /shoplifting under \$300, criminal mischief-3rd degree, terroristic threatening- 3rd degree, and assault 4th degree-minor injury were all in the top 10 charges each year, although where they fell in the ranking often varied each year. For example, disorderly conduct was the second leading charge in 2005, responsible for 5 percent of all charges that year; in 2006, however, disorderly conduct was the fifth leading charge, responsible for less than 4 percent of all violations where it remained for 2007.

Table7 : Top 10 Public (Delinquent) Charges (2005-2007)

2005			2006			2007		
Charge	#	% of Total Public Charges	Charge	#	% of Total Public Charges	Charge	#	% of Total Public Charges
Contempt Of Court	2,774	8.26%	Contempt Of Court	2,721	7.53%	Contempt Of Court	1,934	5.74%
Disorderly Conduct	1,712	5.10%	Possession Of Marijuana	1,454	4.02%	Criminal Mischief-3rd Degree	1,513	4.49%
Possession Of Marijuana	1,551	4.62%	Criminal Mischief-3rd Degree	1,425	3.94%	Assault 4th Degree Minor Injury	1,503	4.46%
Theft By Unlawful Taking/Disp-Shoplifting - Under \$300	1,214	3.62%	Assault 4th Degree Minor Injury	1,355	3.75%	Possession Of Marijuana	1,477	4.39%
Criminal Mischief-3rd Degree	1,584	4.72%	Disorderly Conduct	1,343	3.72%	Disorderly Conduct, 2nd Degree	1,383	4.11%
Terroristic Threatening, 3rd Degree	1,028	3.06%	Terroristic Threatening, 3rd Degree	1,107	3.06%	Terroristic Threatening, 3rd Degree	1,218	3.62%
Assault 4th Degree Minor Injury	1,210	3.60%	Theft By Unlawful Taking/Disp-Shoplifting - Under \$300	1,089	3.01%	Theft By Unlawful Taking/Disp-Shoplifting - Under \$300	1,166	3.46%
Use/Possess Drug Paraphernalia, 1st Offense	711	2.12%	Wanton Endangerment-1st Degree	954	2.64%	Terroristic Threatening, 2nd Degree	721	2.14%
Alcohol Intoxication In A Public Place-1st & 2nd O	559	1.67%	Burglary, 3rd Degree	755	2.09%	Burglary, 2nd Degree	686	2.04%
Harassment - No Physical Contact	548	1.63%	Burglary, 2nd Degree	716	1.98%	Assault 4th Degree Domestic Violence Minor Injury	672	2.00%

Figure 21 illustrates the top ten juvenile delinquent charges by gender. In every category, fewer females than males were charged for the offense under consideration; however, the discrepancies between gender are less pronounced in charges for contempt of court (34.2% female), theft by unlawful taking (44.7% female), harassment/no physical contact (39.9% female), and Assault 4th degree-minor injury (35.4% female).

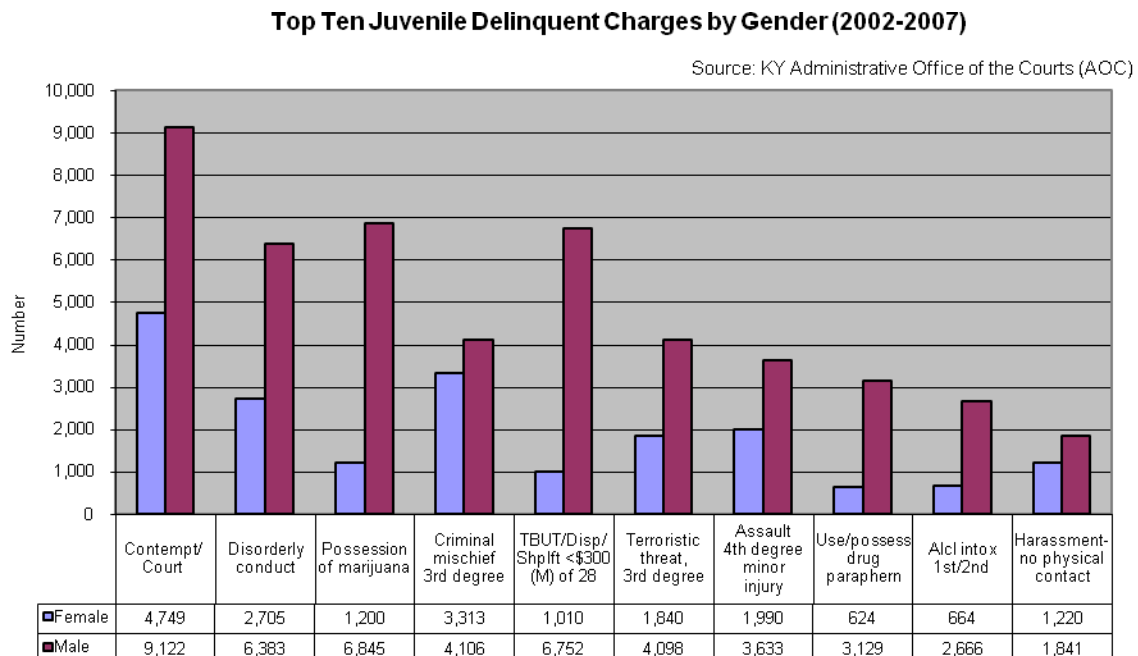


Figure 21

The top ten delinquent charges are presented by racial category in **Figure 22**. The overall population in Kentucky is 90.1 white, 7.3% African American, 0.2% American Indian, 0.7% Asian, 0.6% other, and 1.1% two or more races. African American youth are most likely to receive a disproportionate number of charges for contempt of court (26.4% African American), disorderly conduct (36.7% African American), and theft by unlawful taking (36.5% African American). For the charges of use/possession of drug paraphernalia and alcohol intoxication 1st and 2nd offense, the numbers of African American youth are consistent with their numbers in the overall population (9.7% for drug use/possession and 5.6% for alcohol intoxication).

Top Ten Delinquent Charges by Race (2002-2007)

Source: KY Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

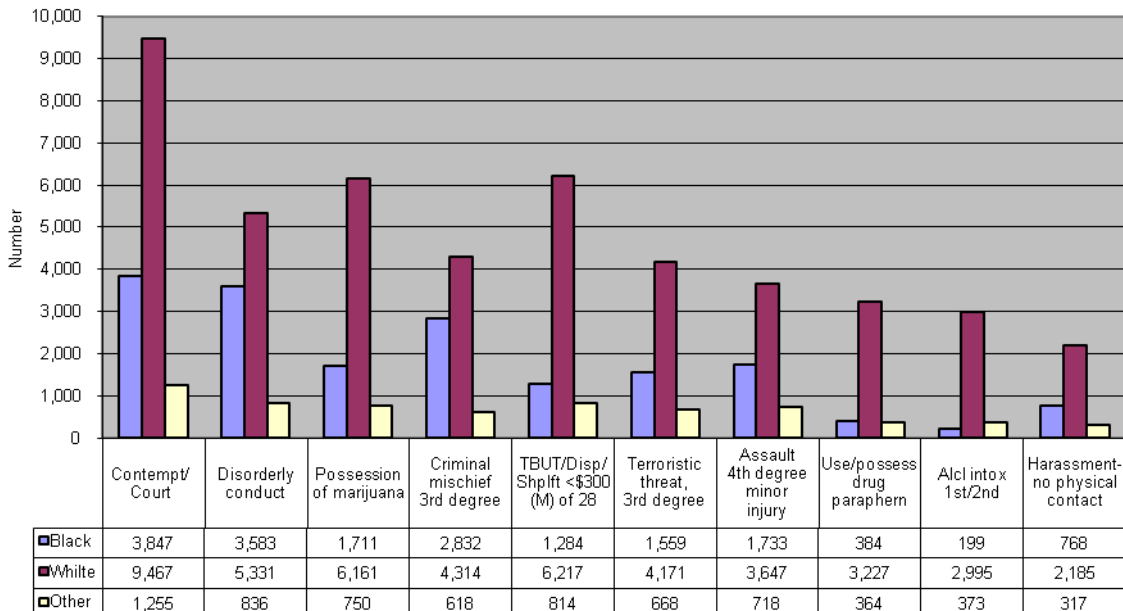


Figure 22

Status Charges by Gender (2002-2007)

Source: KY Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

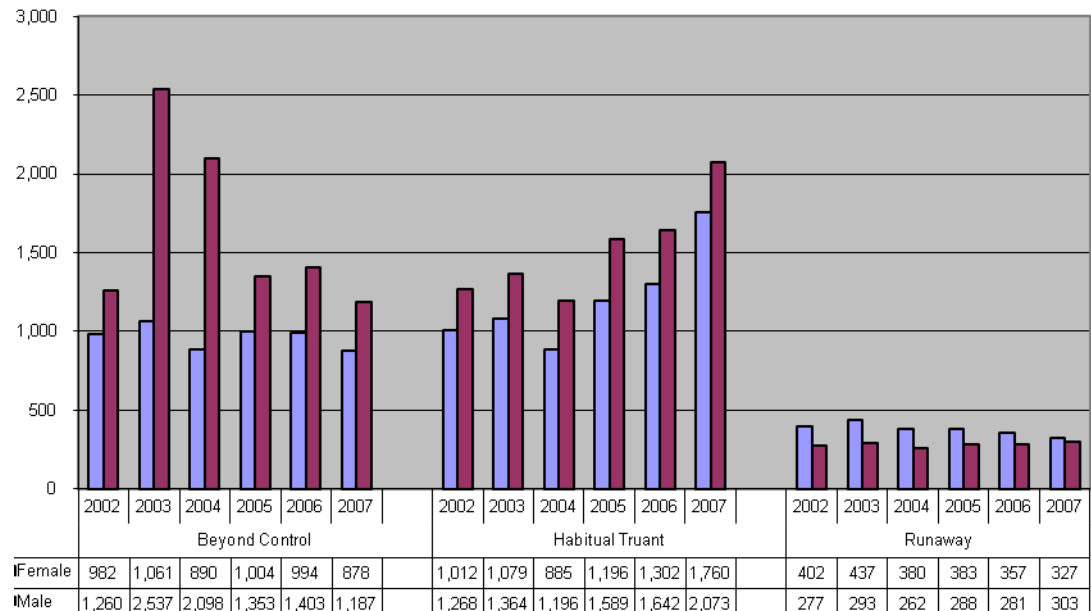


Figure 23

The information presented in Figures 23 and 24 reflect data on the three most common status charges from the Administrative Office of the Court's database. The number of charges for these offenses is presented by gender in **Figure 23**. Males are much more likely to be

charged with beyond control, while females are more likely charged with being a runaway. The proportion of males to females within each of the offense categories remains fairly stable through the six-year period.

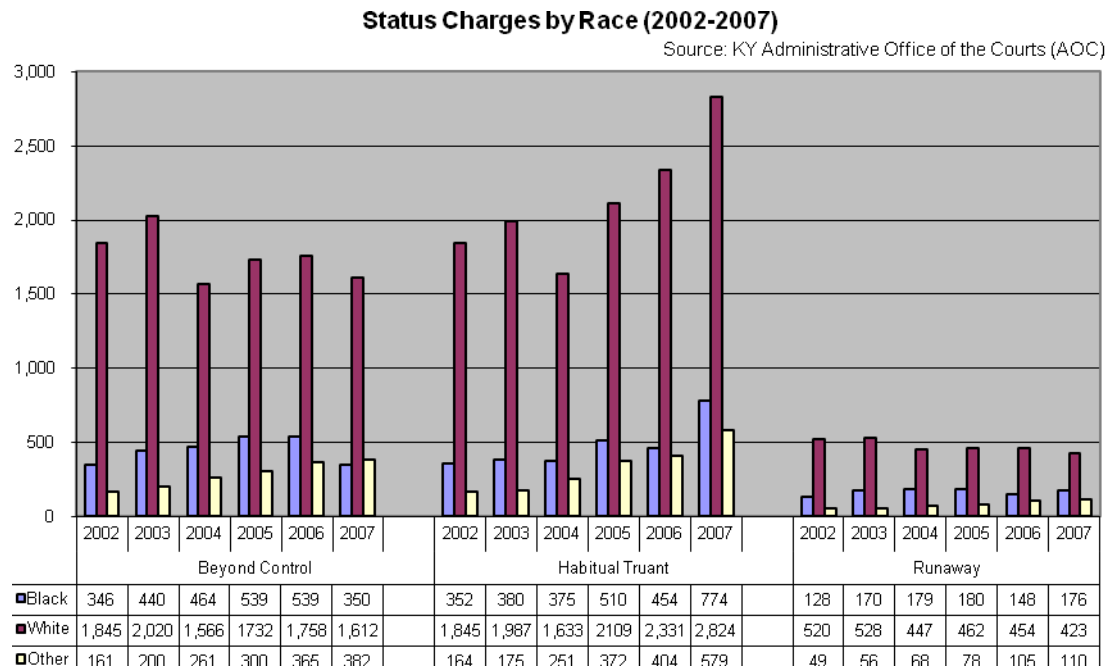


Figure 24

In **Figure 24**, status charges are displayed by race for calendar years 2002-2007. For each of the three offense categories in 2007, the proportion of charges for black youth is two to three times the number of black youth in the overall population (7.3%). Black youth were involved with 14.9% of the charges for beyond control, 18.5 % of the charges for habitual truancy, and 24.8% of the runaway charges.

Charges involving Handguns

Next, we analyzed the specific charges associated with the use or possession of a handgun during the commission of an offense. To be included in this analysis, the charge had to specifically mention the word *handgun*; it does not include charges involving other types of firearms or weapons. Of the over 203,408 charges involving delinquent offenses in the six-year period, only 690 involved the possession or use of a handgun.

In accordance with Kentucky Revised Statute 635.020 (4) ... if the District Court finds probable cause to believe that a child committed a felony, that a firearm was used in the commission of that felony, and that the child was fourteen (14) years of age or older at the time of the commission of the alleged felony, then the child shall be transferred to the Circuit Court for trial

During the six-year period, the number of handgun charges fluctuated yearly, but the number of handgun charges in 2007 was 1.5% lower than the number for 2006 but 37.5% higher than the number of handgun charges in 2002, the beginning of the six-year period. As can be seen in the graphs below, males were much more likely to be charged with an offense involving a handgun

than females (**Figure 25**). Also, black youth were more likely to be charged with a handgun offense than white youth or youth of other races. Approximately three in four (72.6%) of the handgun charges during the six-year period involved black youth (**Figure 26**).

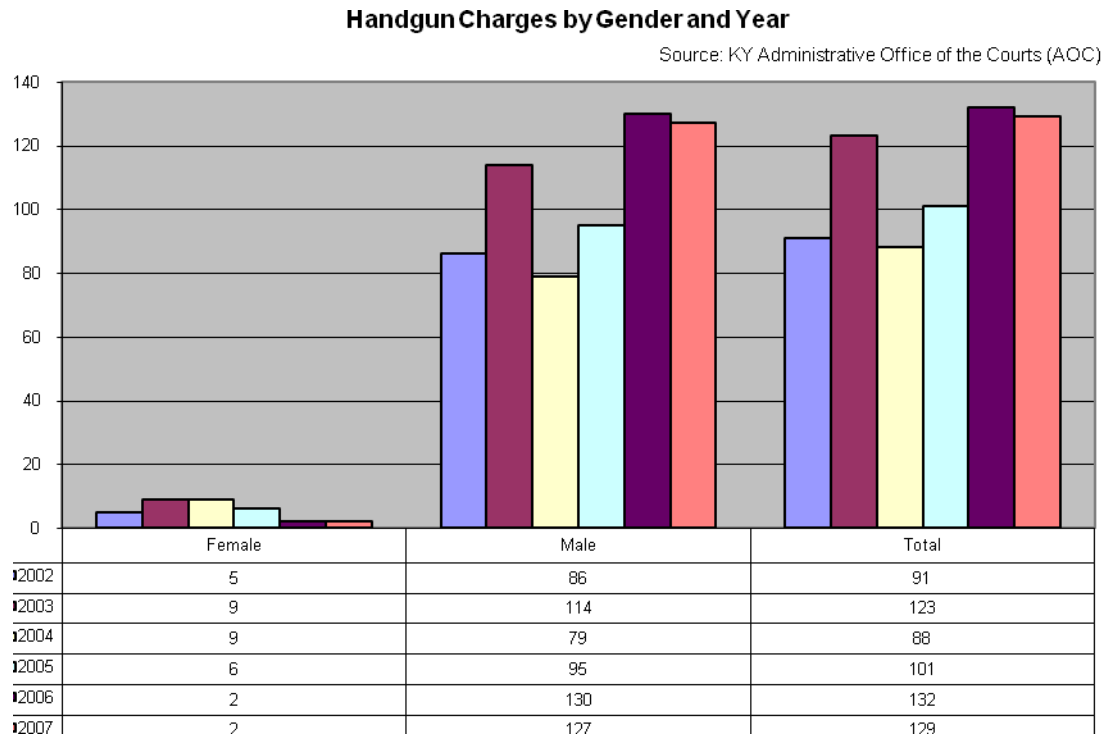


Figure 25

Juvenile Handgun Charges by Race and Year

Source: KY Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

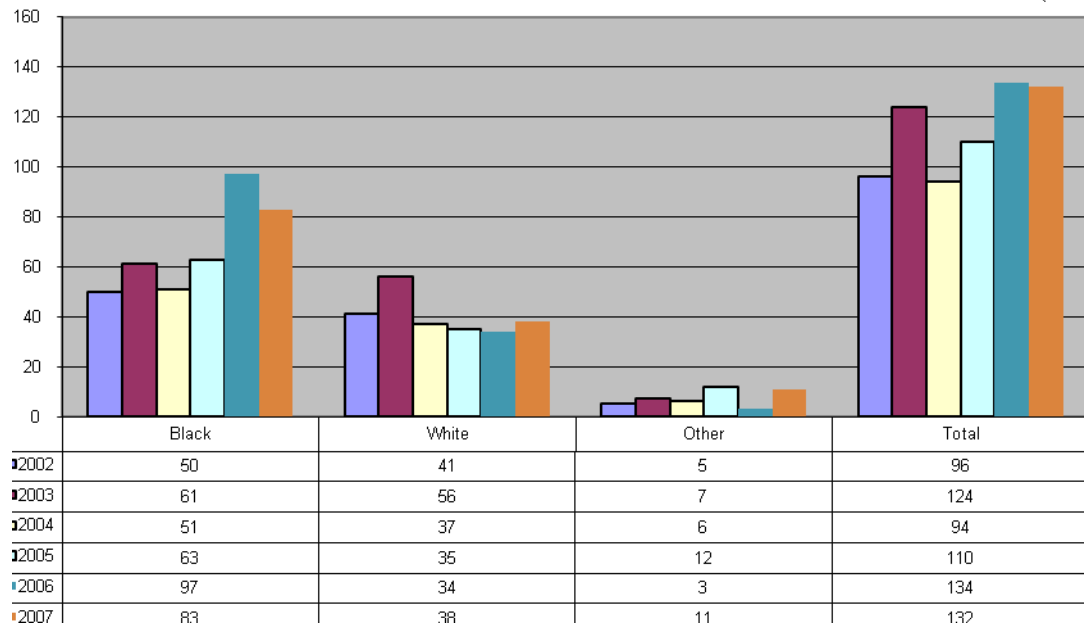
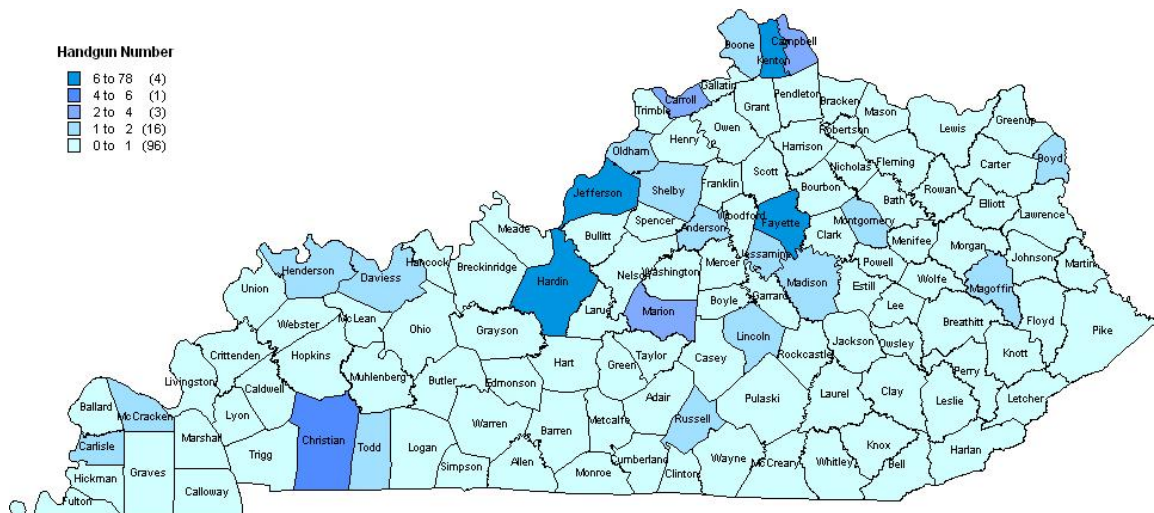


Figure 26

The map presented in **Figure 27** depicts the number of handgun charges by county for 2007. As with most of the other charge data, the most populous counties also had the greatest number of charges. Four in five counties (80.0%) had no youth charged with a handgun violation in 2007.

Number of Handgun Charges - 2007



Source: KY Administrative Office of the Courts

Figure 27

IV. Processing and Disposing of Juvenile Offenses

The Administrative Office of the Court's database tracks each charge through its disposition. To provide some perspective, during the six-year period, AOC recorded 477,089 charges involving juveniles. These charges were based on 274,336 cases (or incidents). Their data system has over 40 dispositional categories, including "pending". The following charts and tables present information about these charges.

Diversion

As reported in the previous reports (May & Chen, 2007; May & Chen, 2006; and R.E.A.C.H., 2005), many youth are successfully diverted through Kentucky's system of court designated workers (CDW). Youth charged with a delinquent or status offense are subject to the assistance of a court designated worker. Each of the 59 judicial districts has the services of a CDW, who is delegated by the Administrative Office of the Courts for the purpose of placing children in alternative placements prior to arraignment, conducting preliminary investigations, and formulating, entering into, and supervision diversion agreements. KRS. 020 defines "Diversion Agreement" as: "...an agreement entered into between a court-designated worker and a child charged with the commission of offenses set forth in KRS Chapters 630 and 635, the purpose of which is to serve the best interest of the child and to provide redress for those offenses without court action and without the creation of a formal court record.

Uniform criteria determine which juvenile complaints must be forwarded to formal court and which are eligible for informal processing with the CDW program. More serious offenses and repeat offenders are referred to formal court. Juveniles involved in minor offenses are generally eligible for informal processing and enter diversion agreements (R.E.A.C.H., 2005).

The ultimate goals of the diversion process are accountability, education, and deterrence from further involvement in the juvenile justice system. Diversion agreements are monitored by the CDW to make sure that the juvenile complies with the conditions of the diversion agreement.

Figures 28-36 are based on data from the CDW database provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts. Given the dynamic nature of the CDW case management database, there may be some discrepancies in the number of cases between charts, depending on when the data were accessed by the research team. As such, some of the numbers derived from the CDW databases are not identical across charts, but rather reflect the current data available at the time the chart was created.

The next four graphs (**Figures 28 to 31**) illustrate the results of efforts by court designated workers, showing the number of cases that resulted in diversions versus petitions to the court by year, by gender, by age and by race.

The results presented in **Figure 28** suggest that over the six-year period, almost one-third of the cases handled by CDWs are successfully diverted from the juvenile court system.

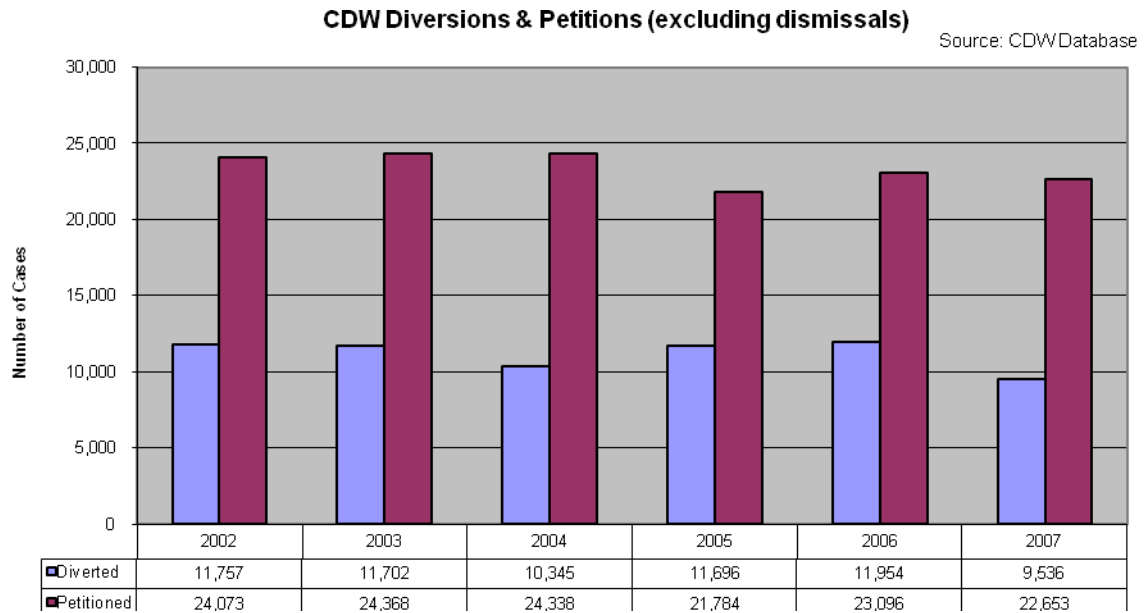


Figure 28

The results presented in **Figure 29** depict that females are more likely to be diverted than males (39.2% of all females charged are diverted compared to 28.9% for males).

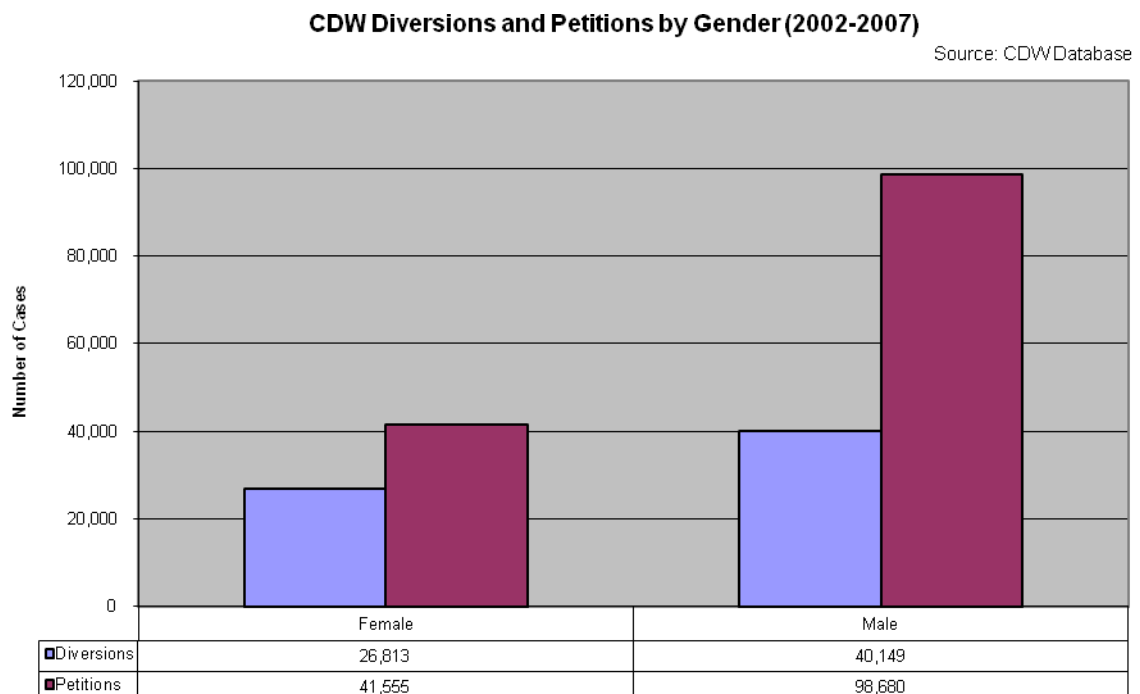


Figure 29

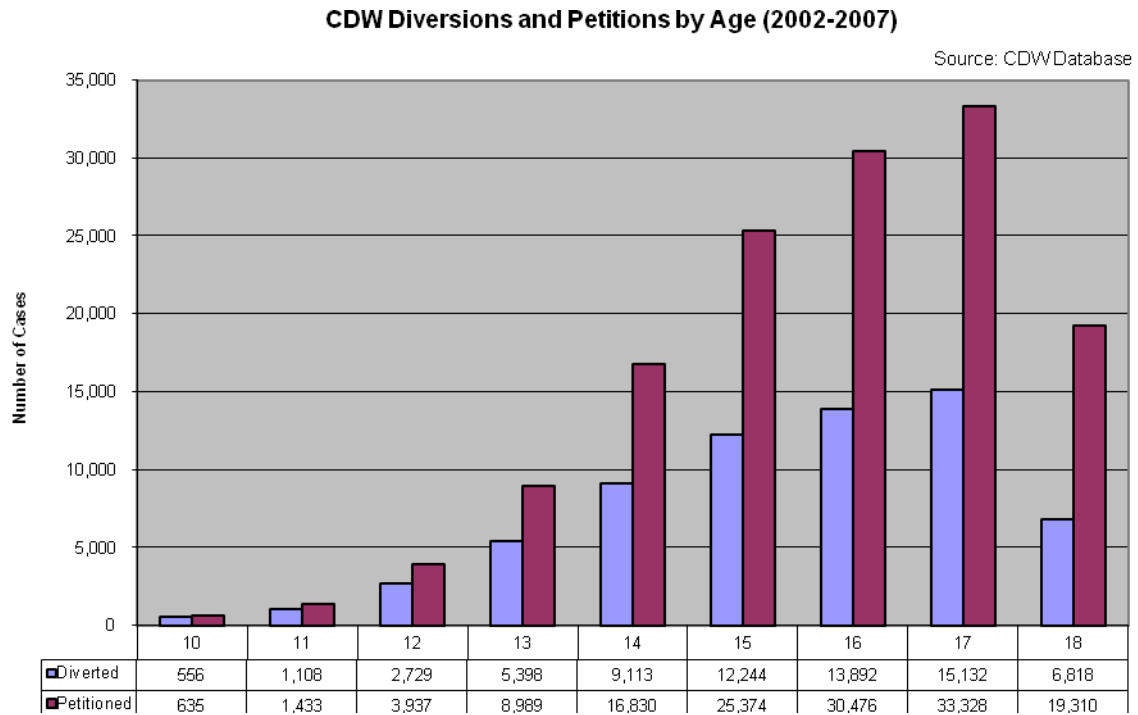


Figure 30

The data presented in **Figure 30** suggest that younger children are, proportionately, more likely to be diverted than older youth.

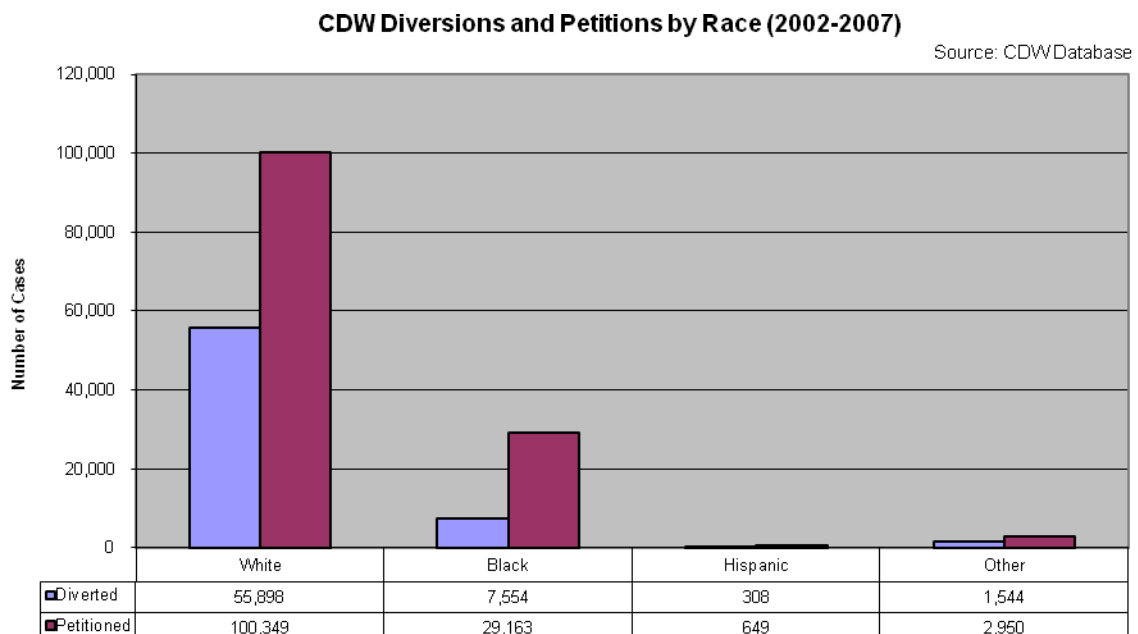
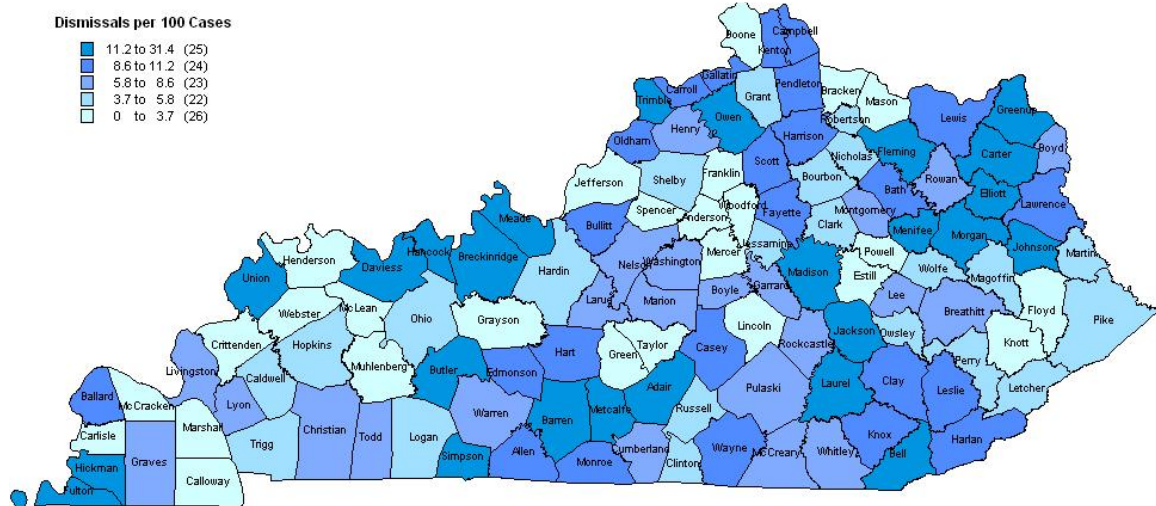


Figure 31

The data presented in **Figure 31** suggest that white youth are, proportionately, more likely to be diverted than black youth (35.7% for white youth versus 20.6% for black youth).

Figures 32 and 33 present dismissals and diversion by county, based on CDW data from the Administrative Office of the Courts. The percent of dismissals was calculated by the number of dismissals divided by total cases. The percent of successful diversions was calculated by the number of diversions divided by diversions plus petitions.

Percent of Dismissals by County (2007)
(Number of dismissals/total Cases)

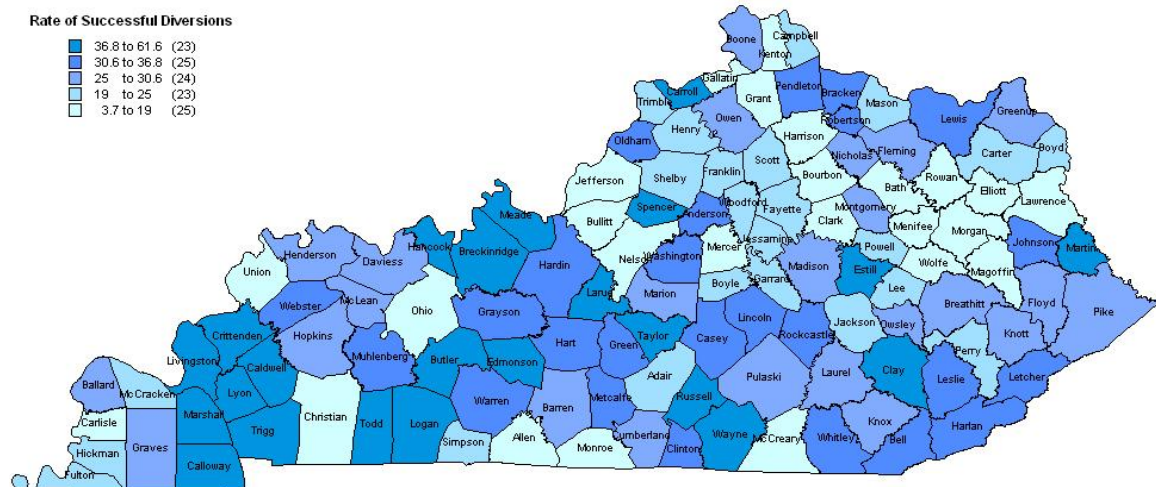


Source: CDW database

Figure 32

The counties with the highest rate of dismissal appear to be dispersed throughout the commonwealth, indicating no real regional patterns in the proportion of cases dismissed by counties, although slightly more counties with high rates of dismissals are found in the eastern half of the state. A larger proportion of counties with higher rates of successful diversion are found in the western half of the Commonwealth.

Percent of Successful Diversions by County (2007)
(Number of diversions/sum of diversions and petitions)



Source: CDW database

Figure 33

Successful diversions by the top offense categories are presented in **Table 8** for both the six-year period under study and for 2007. Data are sorted by the offense categories that are most prevalent. Because the nature of many offenses (e.g., seriousness of offense) and offenders (e.g., repeat offenders) make many offenses ineligible for diversion agreements, the data included in Table 8 represent only those offenses that are eligible for diversion programs. The offenses with the highest rate of successful diversion are highlighted. The results suggest that a large percentage of youths successfully complete diversion programs for a wide variety of offenses. More than 9 in 10 youth that were given a diversion program were successfully diverted for a wide variety of offenses both in 2007 and in the six-year period; the offenses with the highest percentages of successfully diverted youth between 2002-2007 were theft by unlawful taking- less than \$300 (93.57% for 2007, 94.69% for the six-year period), assault 4th degree- minor injury (92.93% for 2007, 92.57% for the six-year period), theft by unlawful taking- all others- over \$300 (95.92% for 2007, 91.74% for the six-year period), burglary- 2nd degree (98.04% for 2007, 91.67% for the six-year period), and wanton endangerment- 1st degree (96.97% for 2007, 94.60% for the six-year period).

In an effort to more closely examine diversions involving youth charged with Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drug (ATOD) offenses, we examine the 11,161 ATOD diversions during the six-year period under study by age (**Figure 34**), race (**Figure 35**), and gender (**Figure 36**). The figures suggest that as age increases (until age 17), the number of youth diverted for ATOD offenses increases as well. The results also suggest that only 1 in 20 youth diverted for ATOD offenses (4.9%) are African-American, a percentage lower than the representation of African-American youth in the general Kentucky population. Almost three in four (71.7%) youth diverted for ATOD offenses were male over the six-year period.

Table 8. Successful CDW Diversions by Top 40 Offense Categories*

Offense	Charge		Successful Diversion		% Successful Diversions	
	2007	2002-07	2007	2002-07	2007	2002-07
HABITUAL TRUANT(STATUS OFFENDERS-UNIFIED JUV CODE)	6,533	31,039	1,933	9,915	69.83	69.94
BEYOND CONTROL(STATUS OFFENDERS-UNIFIED JUVENILE)	3,388	22,720	780	5,558	58.51	58.86
THEFT BY UNLAWFUL TAKING/DISP-SHOPLIFTING - UNDER \$300	2,904	19,448	1,600	10,972	93.57	94.59
POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA	2,178	13,014	681	4,187	89.72	91.66
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF-3RD DEGREE	2,184	12,661	485	3,450	92.21	92.52
DISORDERLY CONDUCT**	n/a	12,329	n/a	3,522	n/a	89.76
TERRORISTIC THREATENING, 3RD DEGREE	1,602	9,290	270	1,795	90	90.84
ASSAULT 4TH DEGREE MINOR INJURY	2,302	8,854	684	2,453	92.93	92.57
USE/POSSESS DRUG PARAPHERNALIA, 1ST OFFENSE	1,006	5,966	316	1,838	86.58	90.95
HARASSMENT - NO PHYSICAL CONTACT	736	5,949	213	1,749	91.81	93.38
ALCOHOL INTOXICATION IN A PUBLIC PLACE-1ST & 2ND O	898	5,842	285	2,013	87.42	90.07
CRIMINAL TRESPASSING-3RD DEGREE	954	5,744	288	1,662	91.14	92.85
RUNAWAY (STATUS OFFENDERS-UNIFIED JUVENILE CODE)	869	5,636	66	501	59.46	60.43
POSSESSION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BY A MINOR	861	5,427	428	2,723	92.84	94.85
CONTEMPT OF COURT, LIBEL/SLANDER, RESISTANCE TO OR	1,625	4,943	0	0	0	0
THEFT BY UNLAWFUL TAKING/DISP-ALL OTHERS-UNDER \$300	726	4,615	155	1,267	91.18	92.15
HARASSING COMMUNICATIONS	1,291	4,124	159	669	59.77	82.29
WANTON ENDANGERMENT-1ST DEGREE	427	3,917	32	333	96.97	94.60
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF-2ND DEGREE	636	3,545	123	714	87.86	88.81
ASSAULT 4TH DEGREE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MINOR INJURY	766	3,534	88	361	88	84.35
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY OVER \$300	584	3,344	42	252	87.5	88.73
ASSAULT 4TH MINOR INJURY NO MEDICAL ATTENTION**	n/a	3,276	n/a	1,100	n/a	92.59
MENACING	433	3,243	62	419	87.32	91.09
PUBLIC INTOXICATION CONTROLLED SUBS (EXCLUDES ALC	540	3,178	143	959	83.14	88.47
DISORDERLY CONDUCT, 2ND DEGREE	2,373	3,014	666	685	88.56	87.26
ABUSE OF TEACHER, PROHIBITED	700	3,007	82	439	76.64	81.75
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY UNDER \$300	467	2,869	139	838	90.26	91.58
TERRORISTIC THREATENING, 2ND DEGREE	589	2,789	107	499	93.86	92.41
THEFT BY UNLAWFUL TAKING/DISP-ALL OTHERS - OVER \$300	489	2,780	47	311	95.92	91.74
BURGLARY, 2ND DEGREE	624	2,762	50	209	98.04	91.67
BURGLARY, 3RD DEGREE	655	2,733	66	288	91.67	92.9
RESISTING ARREST	428	2,698	39	313	79.59	88.42
ASSAULT 4TH DEGREE NO VISIBLE INJURY	780	2,564	242	683	90.64	91.07
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF, 1ST DEGREE	671	2,414	102	292	80.95	88.22
HARASSMENT (PHYSICAL CONTACT) NO INJURY	438	2,239	134	698	93.71	92.94
ASSAULT 4TH DEGREE - CHILD ABUSE**	n/a	2,222	n/a	694	n/a	93.91
CRIMINAL TRESPASS-2ND DEGREE	336	1,819	88	486	92.63	91.35
NO OPERATORS/MOPED LICENSE	363	1,798	133	570	91.1	91.94
WANTON ENDANGERMENT-2ND DEGREE**	n/a	1,747	n/a	362	n/a	93.78
THEFT BY UNLAWFUL TAKING/DISP-AUTO - OVER \$300**	n/a	1,727	n/a	45	n/a	88.24

*The Top 40 offense categories are not identical for the two columns, as some offenses that appeared in the Top 40 for 2007 did not rank in the Top 40 for the five-year period. Offenses that appeared in the Top 40 for 2007 but not for the five-year period are denoted with two asterisks.

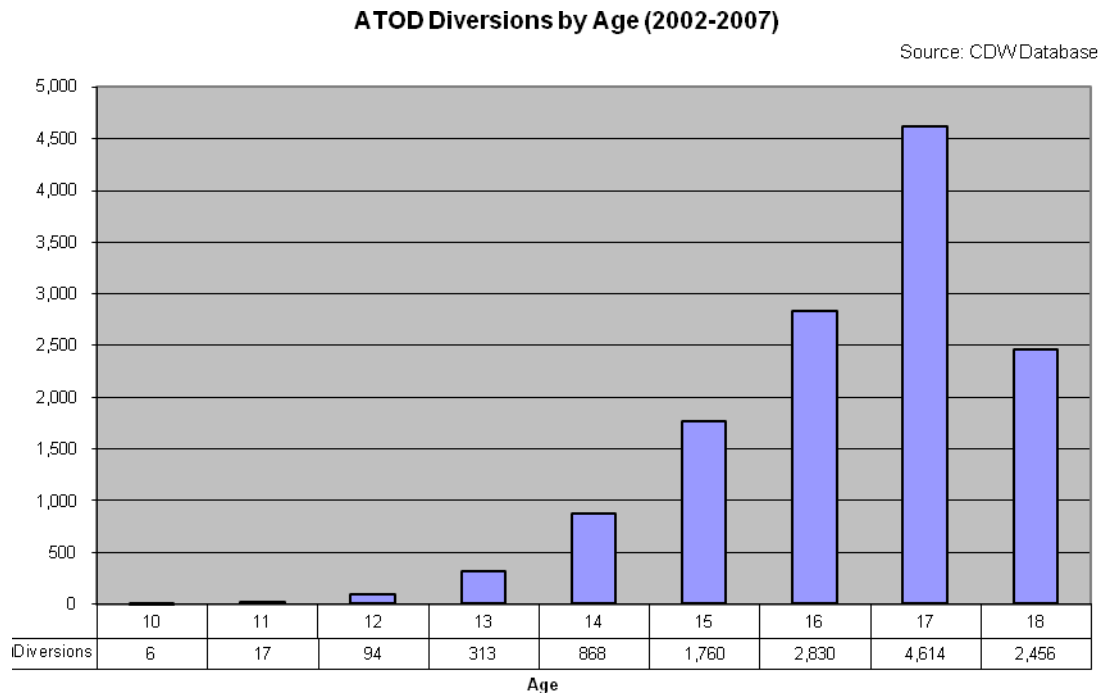


Figure 34

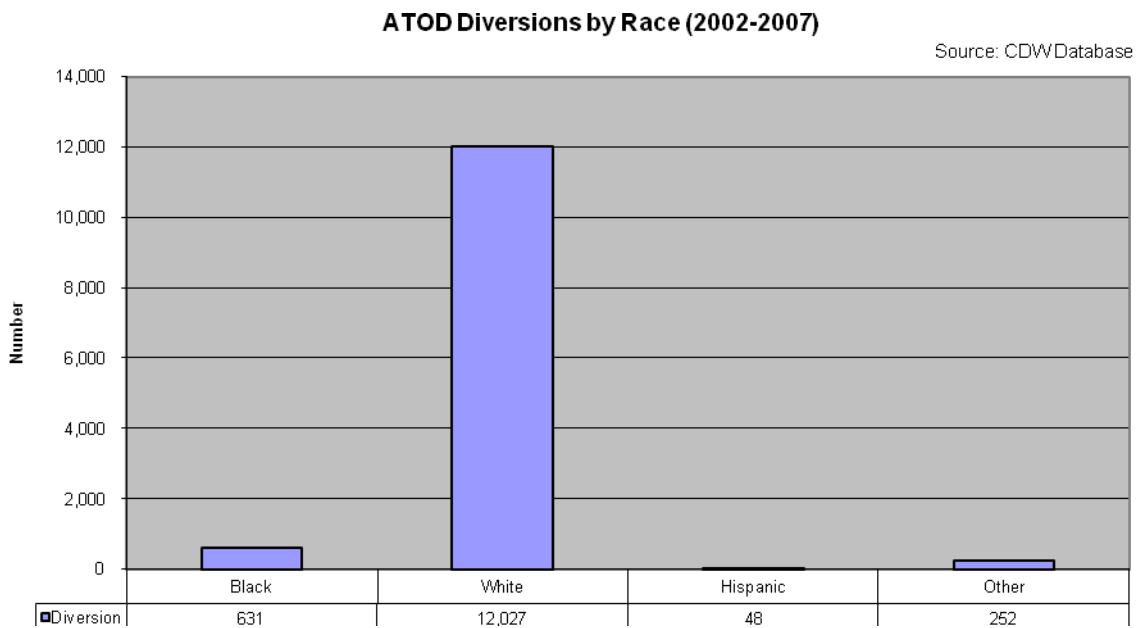


Figure 35

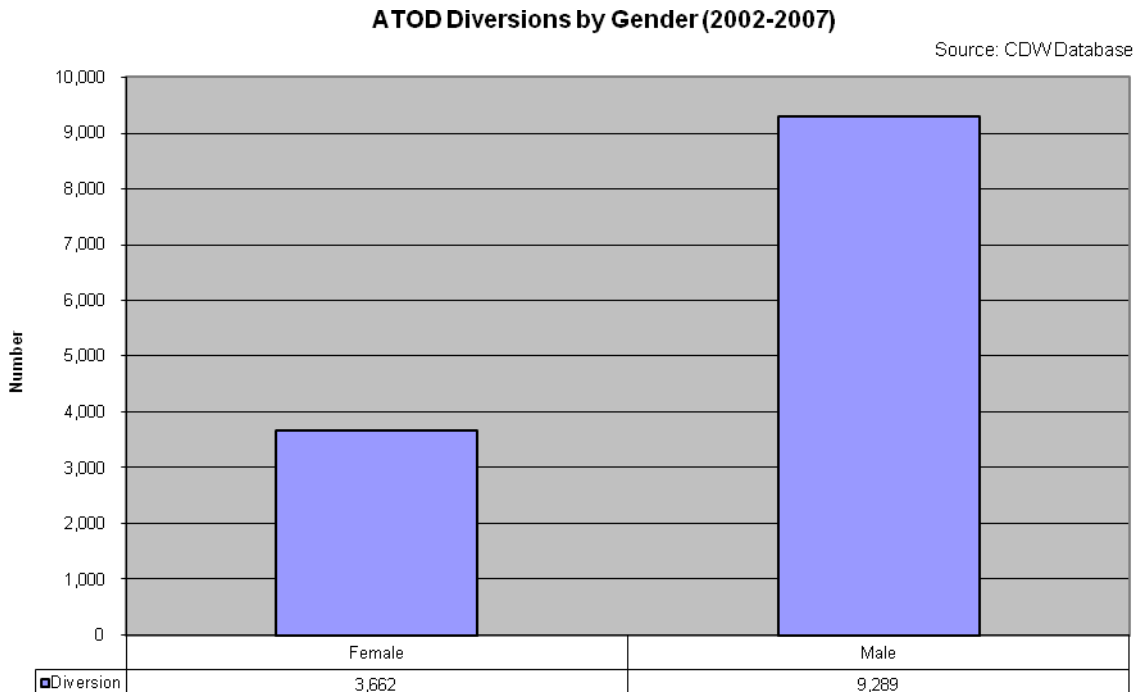


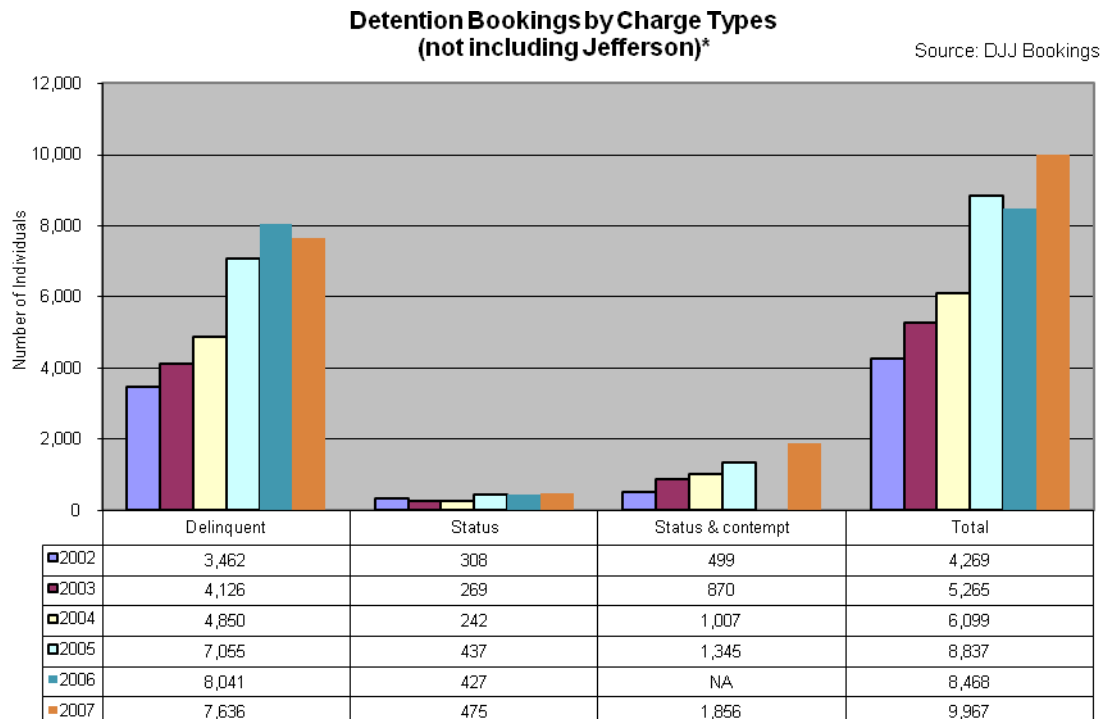
Figure 36

Detentions

A separate database is maintained by the Department for Juvenile Justice (DJJ) to contain data regarding youth held in secure detention facilities. The data presented in **Figures 37 through 41** portray information from that database on all counties with the exception of Jefferson County. Data from Jefferson County are then presented in the graphs following those figures.

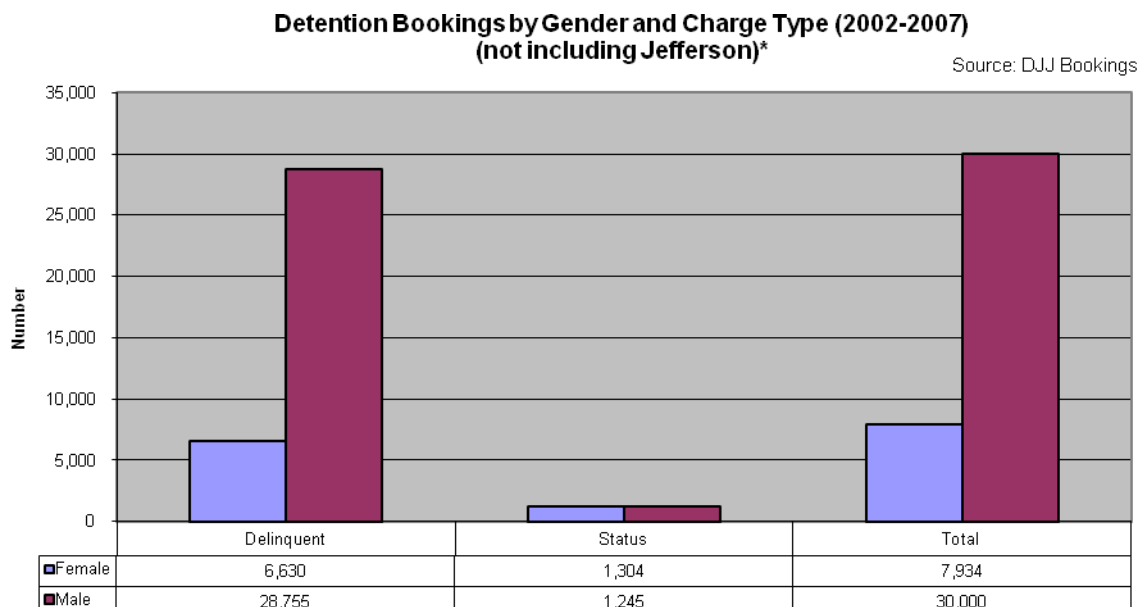
To examine the types of youth being served by the detention centers, data were analyzed by type of charge, gender, age, and race. The first graph (**Figure 37**) portrays the number of detention bookings by the type of charge. Booking is the process whereby a youth enters a secure detention facility. Three categories are used: delinquent only, status only, and status and contempt. The vast majority of youth served in these settings have been charged with a delinquent offense. This finding is consistent with the intended use of these facilities, in that they are designed to provide sufficient security to protect the community from additional delinquent acts.

Data regarding detention bookings by gender are presented in **Figure 38**. Four in five (81.3%) youth booked into detention facilities for delinquency charges are male; interesting, the majority (51.9%) of youth booked into detention facilities for status offenses are female.



* For 2002-2005, Fayette county data were not included because DJJ did not operate the juvenile detention facility in Fayette County.

Figure 37

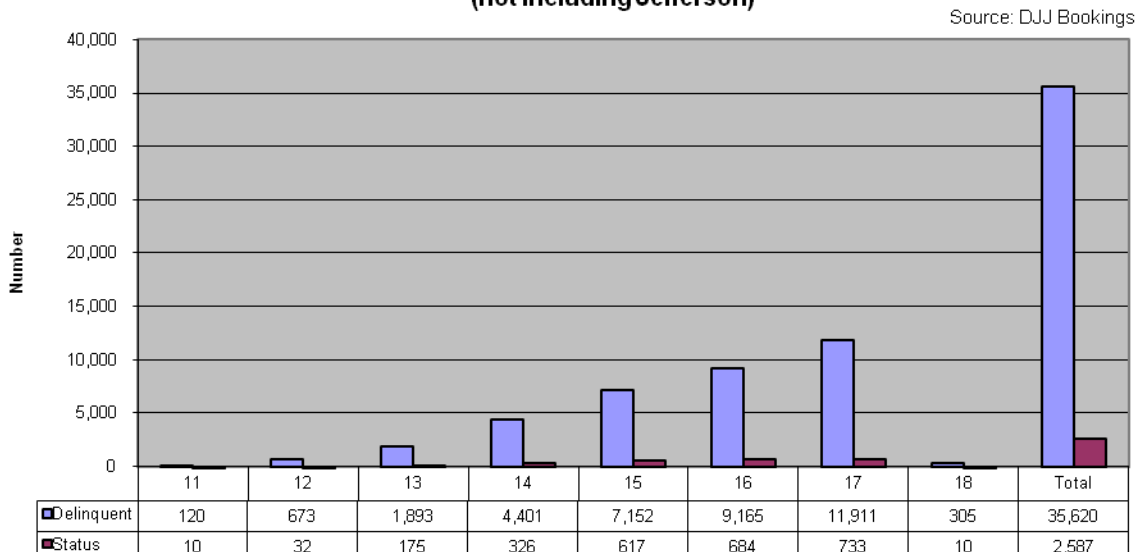


* For 2002-2005, Fayette county data were not included because DJJ did not operate the juvenile detention facility in Fayette County.

Figure 38

The number of youth booked in Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) facilities by age is presented in **Figures 39 and 40**. The data presented in these figures suggest that the largest proportion of youth booked in DJJ facilities each year are ages 16 and 17 (59.7% for 2007). The data also suggest that the number of youth booked into DJJ facilities increased each year from 2002 to 2007, but decreased slightly (16.8%) from 2005 to 2006.

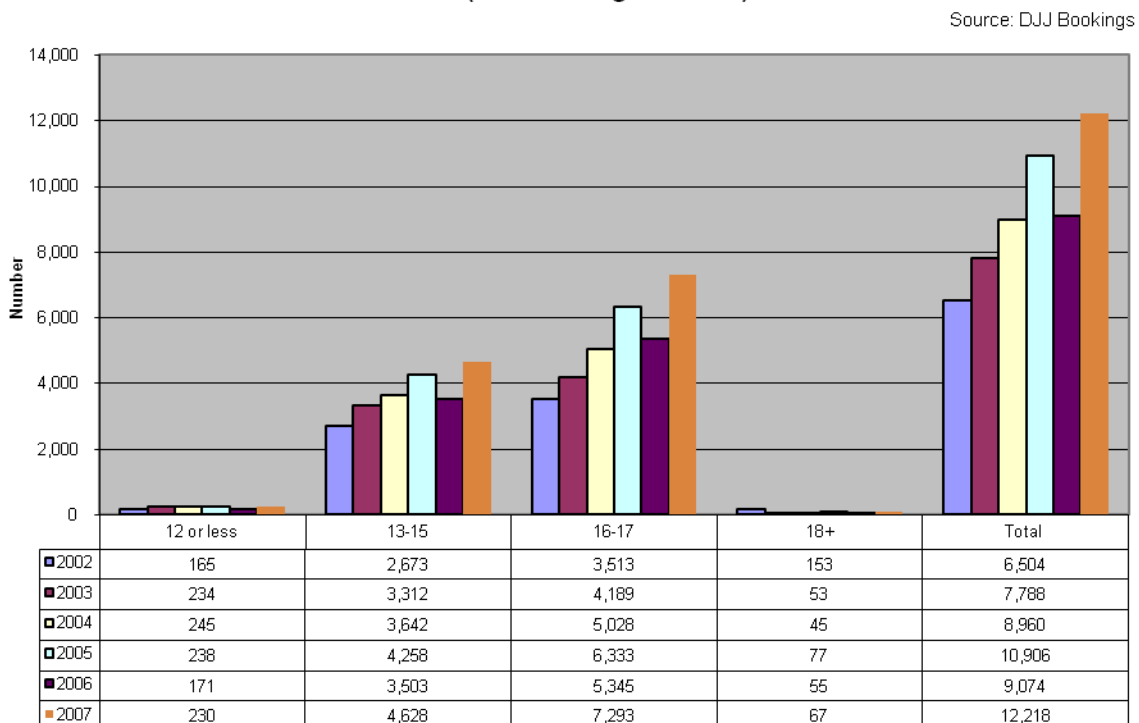
**Detention Bookings by Charge Type and Age (2002-2007)
(not including Jefferson)***



* For 2002-2005, Fayette county data were not included because DJJ did not operate the juvenile detention facility in Fayette County.

**Bookings in DJJ Detention Facilities by Age Range
(not including Jefferson)***

Figure 39



* For 2002-2005, Fayette county data were not included because DJJ did not operate the juvenile detention facility in Fayette County.

Figure 40

The number of youth booked into DJJ-operated detention facilities by race is presented in **Figure 41**. In 2007, African American youth represented 21.6% of the youth in these facilities. These data do not include data from Jefferson County, which has the largest African American population of any Kentucky county.

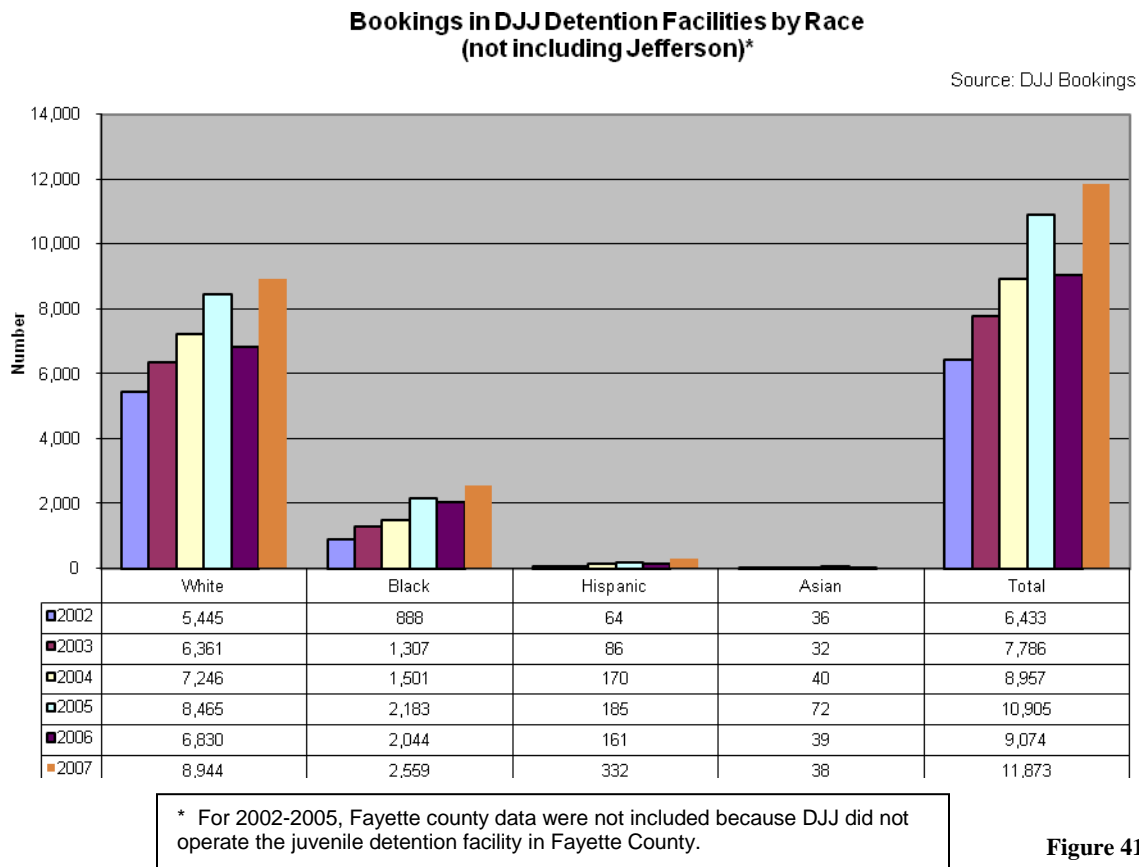


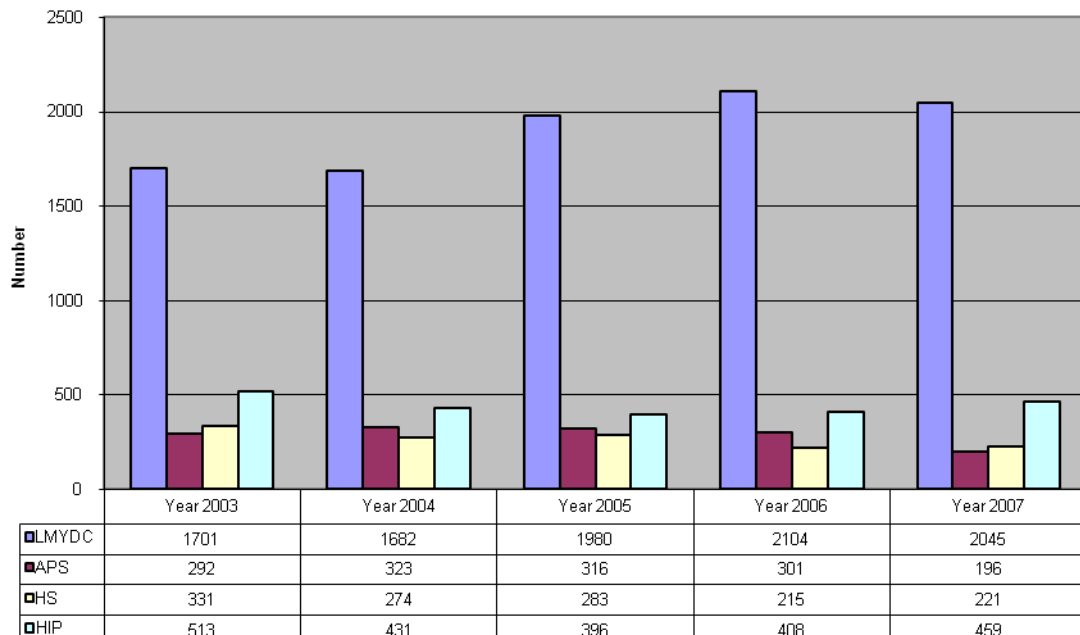
Figure 41

The next series of graphs pertain to Jefferson County only and are from Louisville Metro Youth Detention Center database. Their detention services include four options: the secure detention facility (LMYDC); an alternative placement service consisting of a 14-bed emergency shelter (APS); home supervision (HS); and home incarceration with electronic monitoring (HIP).

The first graph (**Figure 42**) shows the number of intakes by each of these four programs for each of the five years. In Jefferson County an activity is classified as an intake when a youth is brought to the Jefferson County Admissions area. Youth who appear in intake statistics do not have to be committed to a secure facility (e.g., home supervision). Jefferson County has had a steady increase in clients for the Louisville Metro Youth Detention Center over the five-year period; the number of youth supervised under home supervision and Home Incarceration has decreased slightly over the five-year period, while the number of youth placed in the Alternative Placement Service has remained relatively stable over that same period.

Jefferson County Intakes by Program

Source: Jefferson County DJJ



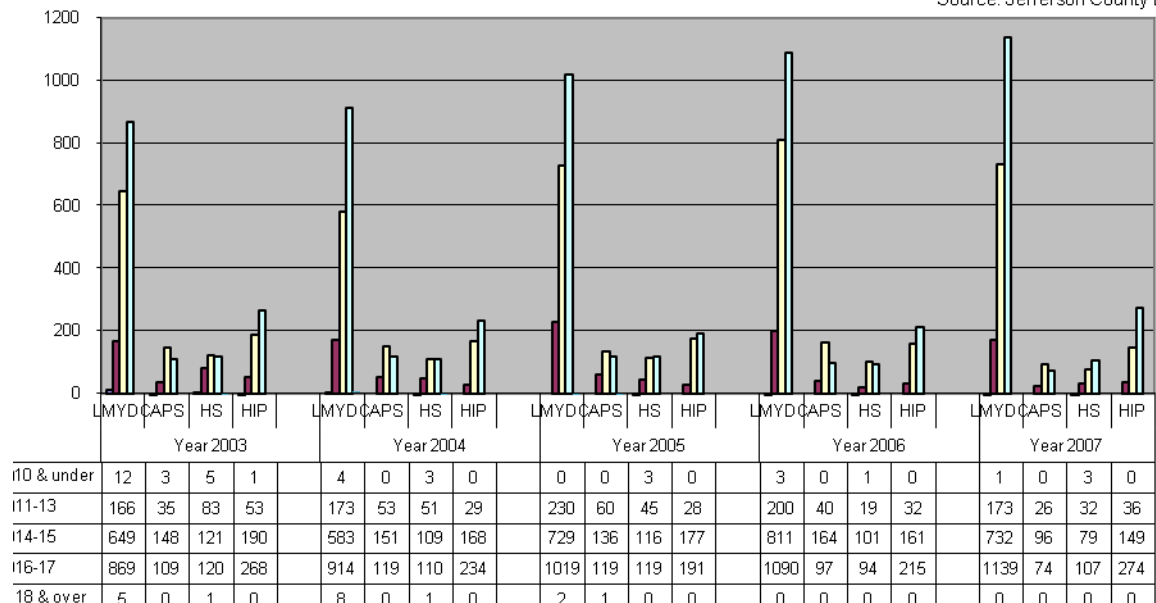
Note: LMYDC – Louisville Metro Youth Detention Center
 APS - Alternative Placement Service
 HS - Home Supervision
 HIP - Home Incarceration Program

Figure 42

The next graph (**Figure 43**) depicts the use of each of these programs by the age of the youth. Not surprisingly, youth who fall into the 14-15 and 16-17 age ranges make up the largest proportion of clients in each of the programs.

Jefferson County Age Ranges at Intake

Source: Jefferson County DJJ



Note: LMYDC – Louisville Metro Youth Detention Center
 APS - Alternative Placement Service
 HS - Home Supervision
 HIP - Home Incarceration Program

Figure 43

In **Figure 44**, Jefferson county placements are categorized by race and gender for the five years under study here. Black males represent the largest race-gender subgroup for each placement, suggesting that Black males are disproportionately more likely to receive a placement in Jefferson County. Jefferson County's population is approximately 20% African American; yet, in 2007, black youth accounted for 62.0% of the LMYDC clients, 59.0% of APS clients, 35.5% of HS clients, and 64.9% of HIP clients.

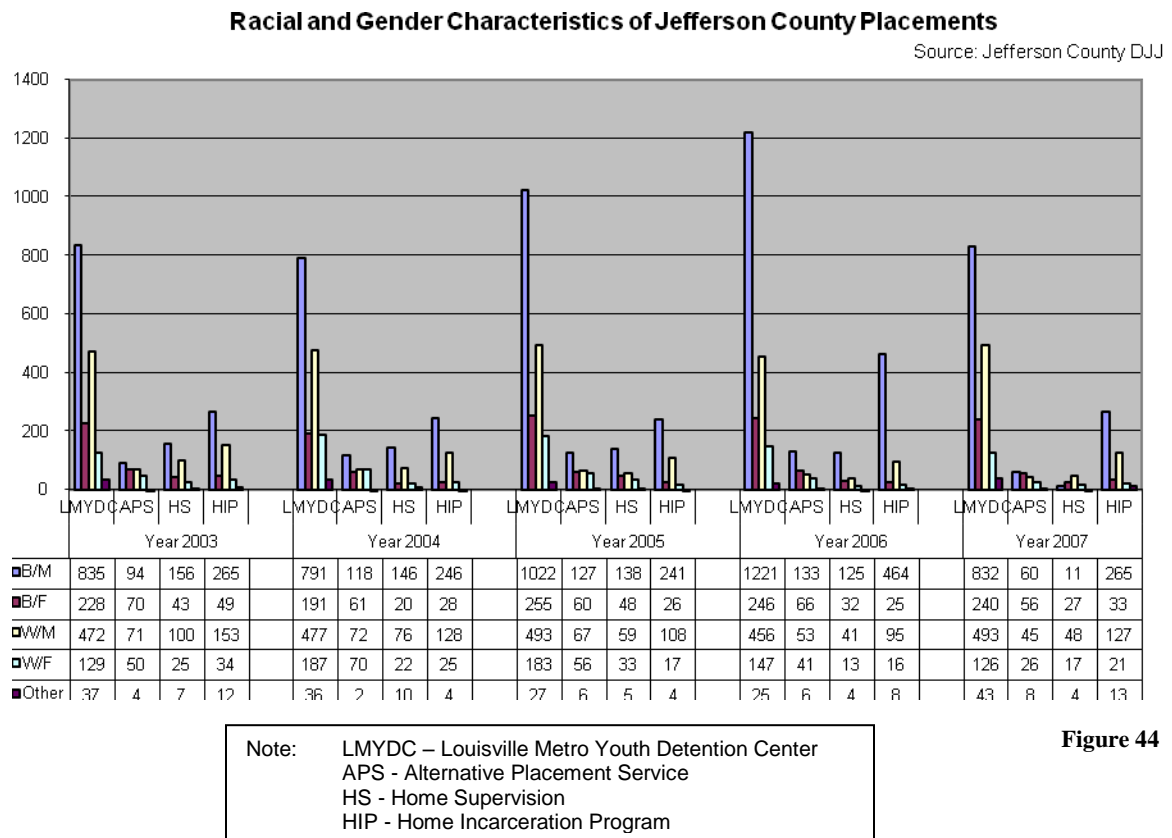
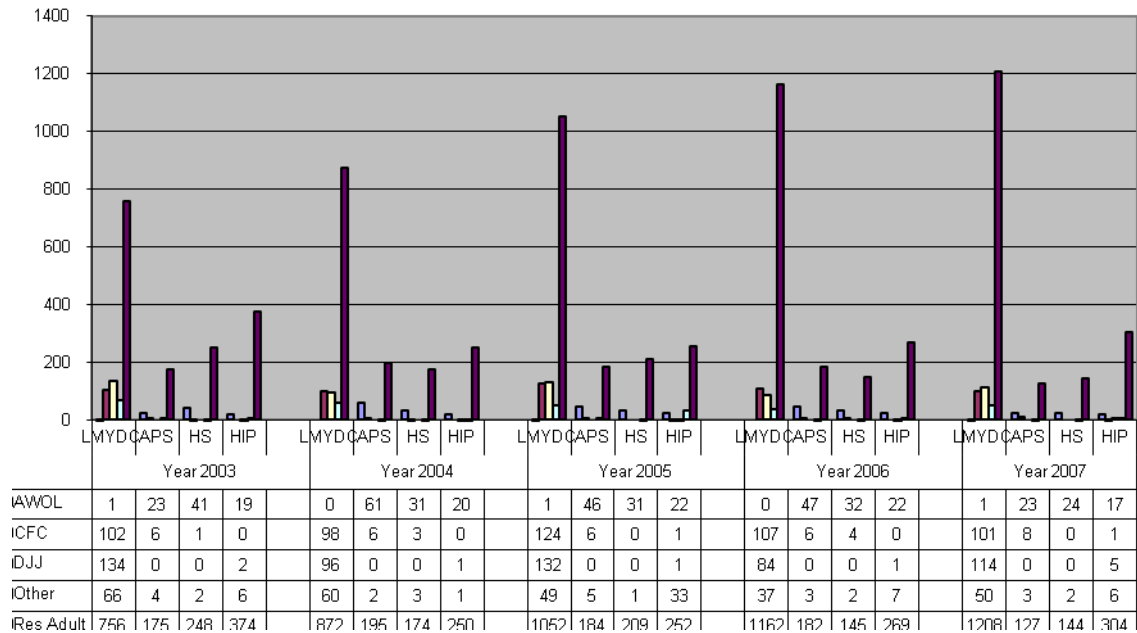


Figure 44

The following graph (**Figure 45**) presents the reason cited for the discharge (or release). In Jefferson county, youth are categorized into five separate types of discharges: (1) AWOL – Absent from the facility without permission; (2) CFC- released to the care of the Cabinet for Families and Children Department of Community Based Services; (3) DJJ- released to the supervision of DJJ; (4) Responsible Adult- released to the care of a responsible adult; and (5) Other- a release to a responsible party other than those described above. Regardless of the program or the year, the vast majority of youth are discharged to a responsible adult. Of the 2,138 youth discharged in 2007, over four in five were discharged to a responsible adult while approximately six percent were discharged to the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). This finding held true in each of the five years under study.

Jefferson County Detention Discharge Reasons

Source: Jefferson County DJJ



Note: LMYDC – Louisville Metro Youth Detention Center
 APS - Alternative Placement Service
 HS - Home Supervision
 HIP - Home Incarceration Program

Figure 45

Juvenile Court Dispositions

Judges have a variety of dispositional options available to them. A disposition is a judicial decision reached concerning a youth's case. The types and frequency of use of these dispositions have been previously defined and portrayed. The data used to compile the following graphs were obtained from JORI (Juvenile Offender Resource Information) system that is operated and maintained by the Department of Juvenile Justice. The categories appearing on these graphs are those that are most frequently used for youth who have some DJJ involvement.

Generally, youth receive one disposition, even when multiple charges are filed against them for an incident. In some situations, however, a youth can receive more than one disposition for the same incident (i.e., a youth who has committed both a status offense and a delinquent offense may receive two separate dispositions). The following charts are thus based on dispositions rather than individuals.

The majority of the charges are addressed through a disposition of probation (where youth are allowed to live in the community under supervision of a juvenile probation officer) or judicial discretion. Judicial discretion is any disposition other than probation, commitment, confinement, or pending. The most infrequently used disposition is confinement. This term is used when individuals are committed as youthful offenders and placed in DJJ's Youth Development Centers. Another category is pending. The pending category means that a disposition is still pending on

that case (the youth is awaiting a judicial decision on their case). A charge is dismissed when the court orders disposing of a case without conducting a trial of the issues. Dismissal may occur when there is a finding of insufficient evidence to bring the matter to trial, when no more decisions or actions are anticipated, or when the case is already being handled by another court.

The next series of five graphs (**Figures 46 to 50**) depict the various court dispositions (shown above) by race and ethnicity. More than one in four youth (27.9%) committed to DJJ custody in 2007 were African American; this proportion is similar to the proportion of youth who were committed to DJJ custody in each of the last four years. For probation, the proportion of youth receiving that disposition in 2007 that are African American is similar to the proportion of the youth population in Kentucky that is African American. For confinement and judicial discretion, however, the proportions of youth receiving those dispositions that are African American are roughly six times (for confinement) and three times (for judicial discretion) larger than the proportion of youth in the state that is African American. As such, African American youth are disproportionately represented in these two dispositions in each of the five years under study.

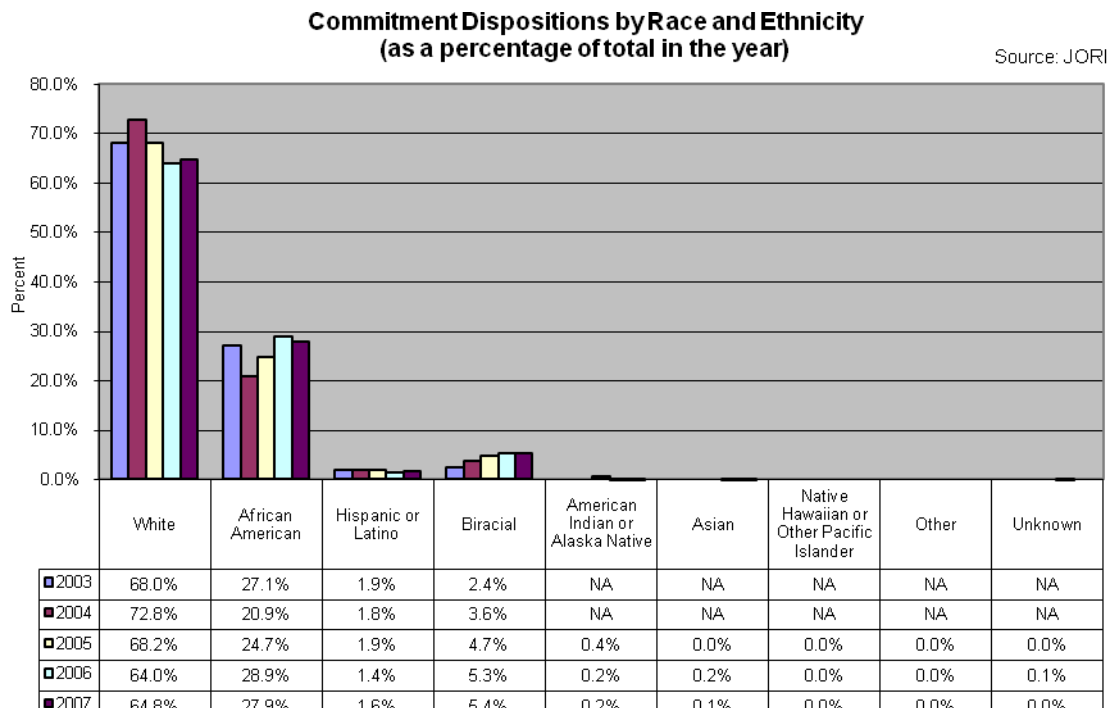


Figure 46

**Probation Dispositions by Race and Ethnicity
(as a percentage of total in the year)**

Source: JORI

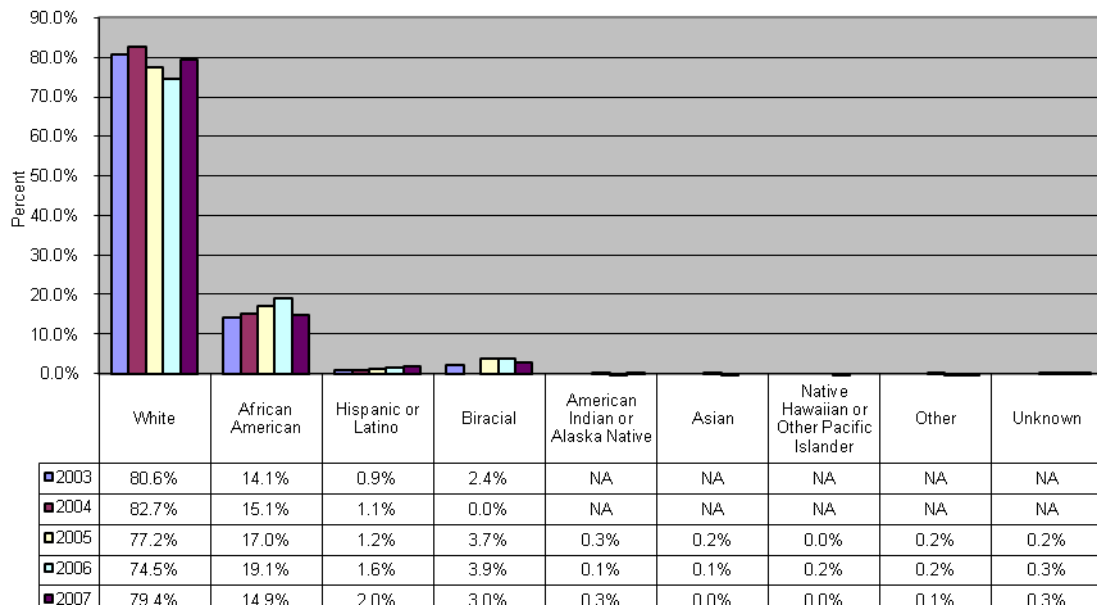


Figure 47

**Dismissal Dispositions by Race and Ethnicity
(as a percentage of total in the year)**

Source: JORI

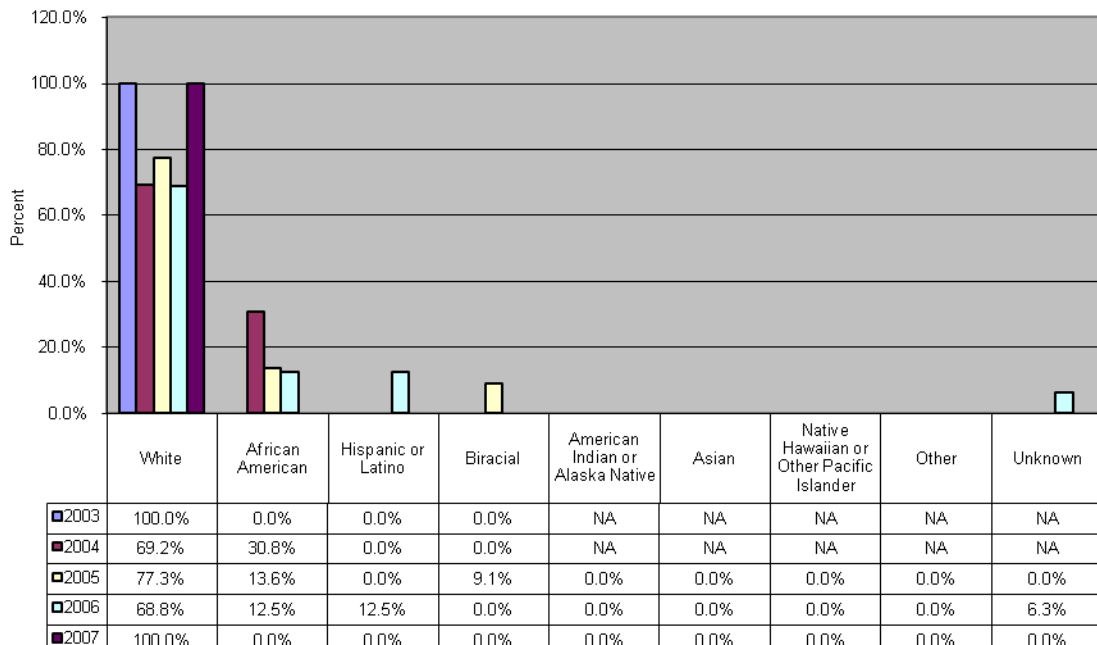


Figure 48

**Confinement Dispositions by Race and Ethnicity
(as a percentage of total in the year)**

Source: JORI

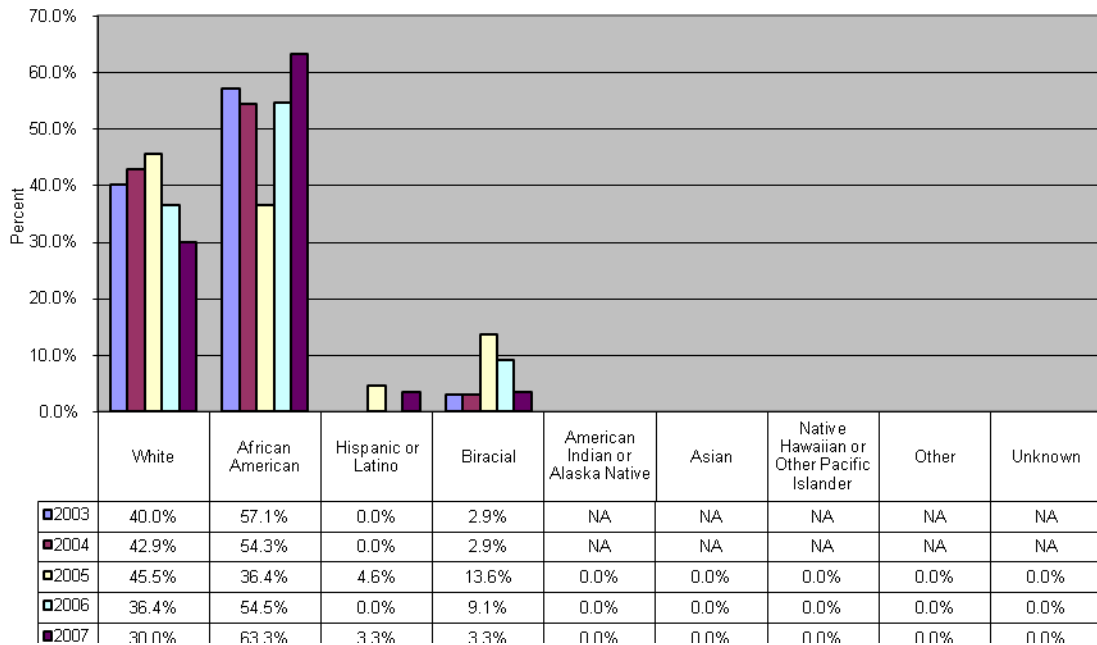


Figure 49

**Judicial Discretion Dispositions by Race and Ethnicity
(as a percentage of total in the year)**

Source: JORI

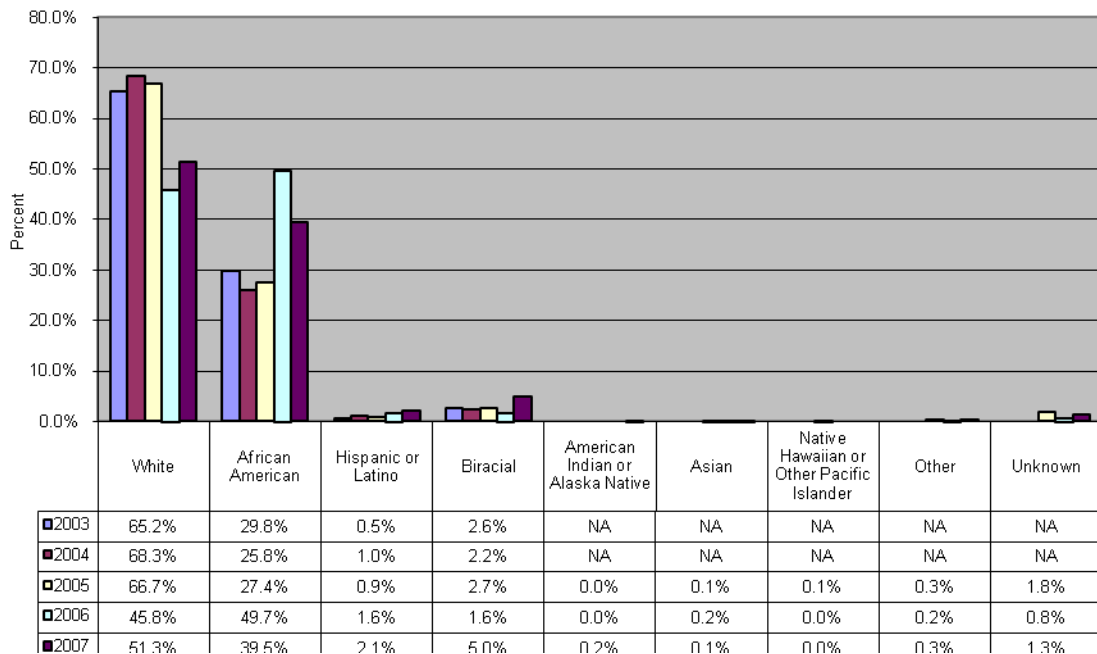


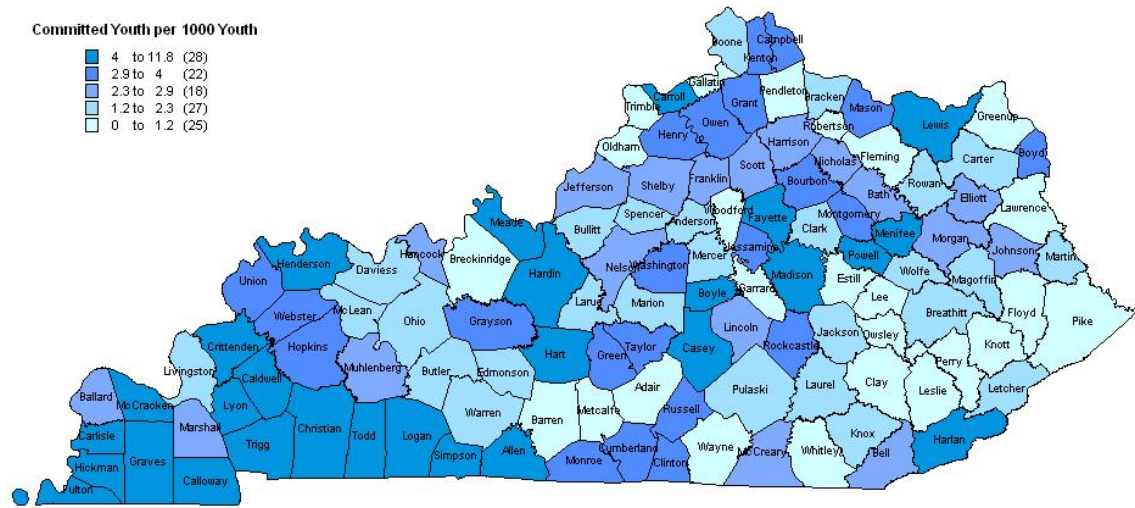
Figure 50

The number of youth committed and probated to DJJ in 2007 by the county of the youth's residence (home county) is presented in **Table 9**. Because these are numbers rather than rates, the population centers of Kentucky are found in the top tier of both categories. The top ten counties for number of commitment dispositions (listed in order from the county with the largest number of commitment dispositions) are Jefferson, Fayette, Kenton, Hardin, Christian, McCracken, Campbell, Henderson, Madison, and Graves counties. The top ten counties for number of probation dispositions are as follows (listed in order from the county with the largest number of probation dispositions): Christian, Fayette, Kenton, Grayson, Madison, Anderson, Meade, Jefferson, Morgan, and Bullitt counties. These numbers are converted to rates per 1,000 youth population and depicted graphically on the maps in **Figures 51 and 52**. Unlike much of the other data presented throughout the report, no regional patterns are immediately apparent for these dispositions, although Western and Central Kentucky counties appear to have higher rates for both the rate of youth committed and the rate of youth probated to DJJ.

Table 9: Number of Youth Committed and Probated to DJJ in 2007 by Home County

County	Commit	Probate	County	Commit	Probate	County	Commit	Probate
Adair	0	11	Grant	9	1	McLean	2	2
Allen	11	3	Graves	24	7	Meade	14	18
Anderson	4	19	Grayson	9	26	Menifee	3	1
Ballard	2	3	Green	4	1	Mercer	5	0
Barren	3	1	Greenup	1	2	Metcalfe	1	1
Bath	3	1	Hancock	3	6	Monroe	4	2
Bell	8	2	Hardin	48	12	Montgomery	10	7
Boone	20	11	Harlan	14	11	Morgan	4	17
Bourbon	7	3	Harrison	5	3	Muhlenberg	9	2
Boyd	14	6	Hart	9	3	Nelson	13	9
Boyle	15	0	Henderson	36	8	Nicholas	2	0
Bracken	2	4	Henry	6	1	Ohio	3	8
Breathitt	3	7	Hickman	4	2	Oldham	4	2
Breckinridge	2	7	Hopkins	17	3	Owen	5	1
Bullitt	18	14	Jackson	3	2	Owsley	0	1
Butler	3	6	Jefferson	188	17	Pendleton	2	3
Caldwell	8	3	Jessamine	18	3	Perry	2	9
Calloway	14	4	Johnson	6	0	Pike	2	0
Campbell	38	13	Kenton	70	37	Powell	7	5
Carlisle	3	2	Knott	1	5	Pulaski	14	4
Carroll	7	6	Knox	6	4	Robertson	0	2
Carter	6	9	LaRue	3	2	Rockcastle	6	3
Casey	12	3	Laurel	12	1	Rowan	4	0
Christian	46	74	Lawrence	1	2	Russell	5	4
Clark	5	8	Lee	0	0	Scott	13	11
Clay	1	0	Leslie	1	0	Shelby	10	4
Clinton	3	1	Letcher	4	3	Simpson	13	3
Crittenden	5	0	Lewis	11	6	Spencer	3	2
Cumberland	3	1	Lincoln	8	2	Taylor	7	2
Daviess	16	11	Livingston	2	1	Todd	16	1
Edmonson	2	0	Logan	13	5	Trigg	7	1
Elliott	2	4	Lyon	3	0	Trimble	1	0
Estill	0	1	Madison	36	25	Union	7	2
Fayette	110	41	Magoffin	3	0	Warren	20	5
Fleming	0	3	Marion	4	2	Washington	4	0
Floyd	4	0	Marshall	8	3	Wayne	1	1
Franklin	11	14	Martin	2	0	Webster	5	1
Fulton	8	9	Mason	6	9	Whitley	1	1
Gallatin	1	1	McCracken	42	10	Wolfe	1	3
Garrard	2	0	McCreary	6	3	Woodford	3	0

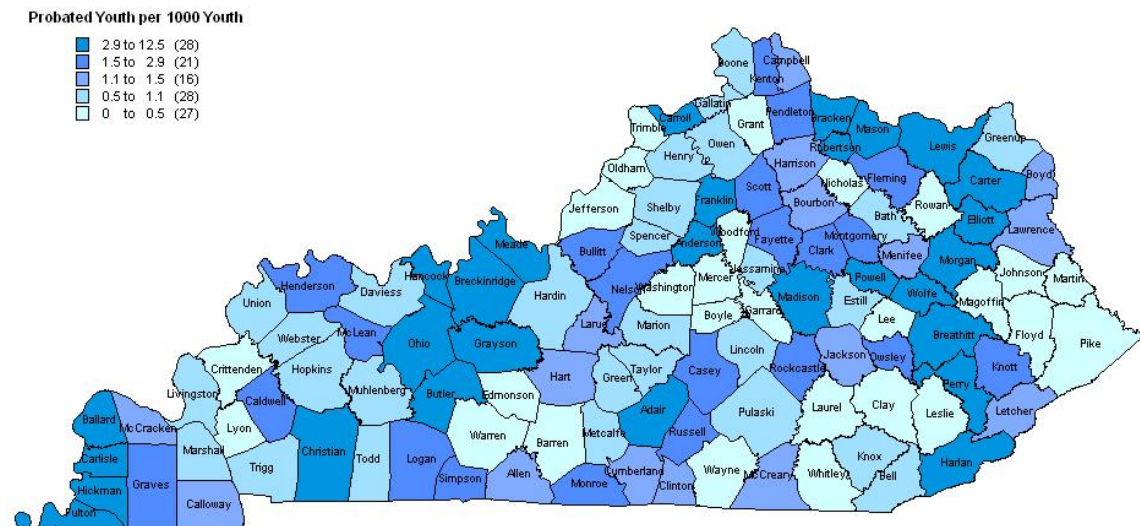
2007 Committed Youth by County of Residence



Source: JORI

Figure 51

2007 Probated Youth by County of Residence



Source: JORI

Figure 52

V. Placement of Committed and Probated Youth

The data presented in **Figure 53** depict the percentage of youth in the various types of placements for calendar years 2003-2007. These placements are described in Table 9. Between 59% and 65% of youth under the supervision of DJJ resided at home with their parent or guardian in each of the five years under study. During the five-year period, the proportion of youth committed or probated to boot camp, group homes, and youth development centers increased sharply. The proportion of youth committed or probated to foster homes, private child care, and psychiatric hospitals either remained steady or declined over the five-year period. For 2007, assessment center, and pending data were not available so the proportions for 2007 are calculated with those categories missing. As the results in the chart suggest, very few youth are committed to residential substance abuse treatment centers. This finding is discussed in detail in the conclusion of this report.

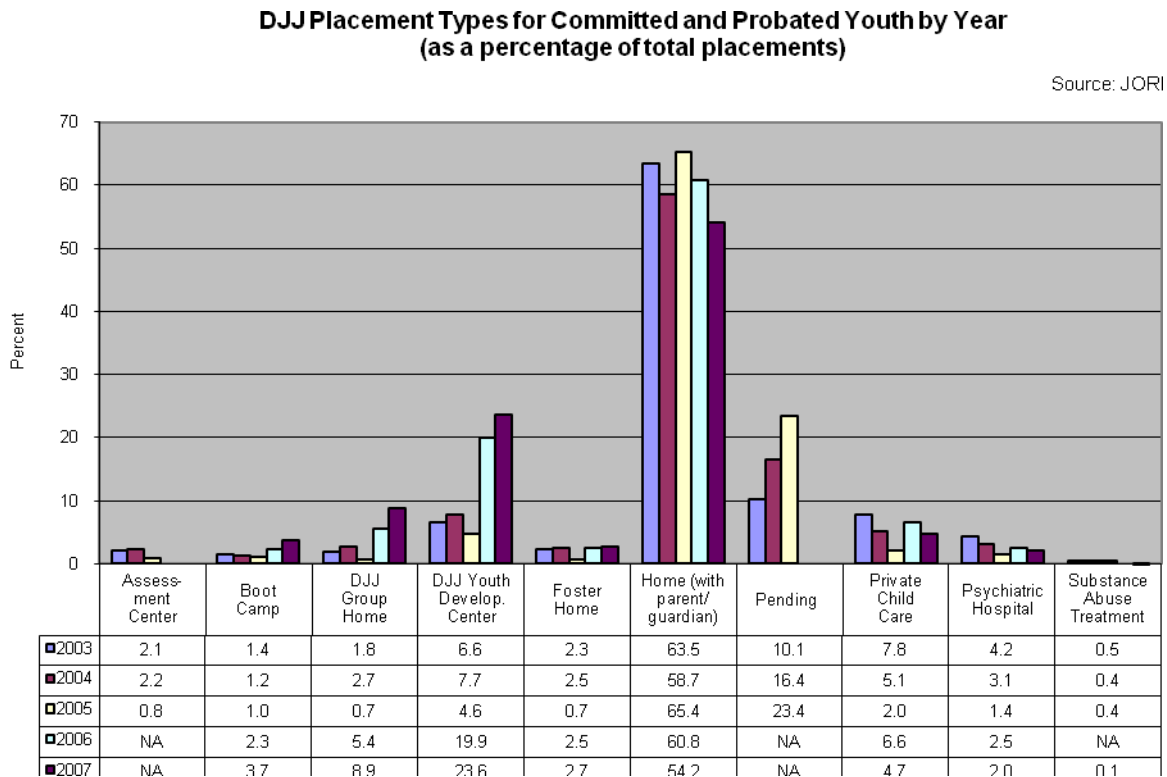


Figure 53

Table 10. Descriptions of DJJ Dispositions

Placement	Description
Assessment Center	Short-time residential facility where youth is placed to determine physical and/or mental health needs prior to long-term placement. The Assessment Center became a Youth Development Center on Nov. 1, 2005.
Boot Camp	The Cadet Leadership and Education Program (CLEP) combine traditional military drilling and regimen with intensive therapeutic services and supported transition back to the community. Serves adjudicated male delinquents, ages 14-17. Youth participate in the program for a minimum of eight months -- four months of residential treatment and four months of supervised community placement
DJJ Group Home	These are DJJ-operated treatment programs that serve 8 to 10 youth between the ages of 12 and 18 (per home) and are located in different counties across the state.
DJJ Youth Develop.	DJJ operates Youth Development Centers statewide housing both public and youthful offenders who have been committed to the state or sentenced as youthful offenders. The centers range in size from 30 to 80 beds.
Foster Home	Youth are placed in foster care by DJJ where parents have a smaller number of placements in the home and have received extensive training to deal with mental health issues
Home (with parent)	Youth is sent home with parents, either on some type of probation or as a commitment placement to the home by DJJ.
Pending	Youth that is awaiting a court disposition.
Private Child Care	Private Child Care facilities are licensed by the State and provide a structured, non-secure setting for both offender and non-offender youth in a community setting. DJJ contracts with private child care agencies in the state for additional services.
Psychiatric Hospital	Youth is released to the care of an in-patient psychiatric hospital.
Substance Abuse	Youth is released to the care of a residential substance abuse program.

The next graph (**Figure 54**) portrays the same data on the basis of number (rather than percentage) of youth residing in each of the available settings. The placement numbers exceed the number of entering youth in a given year due to multiple placements. The trends reflected in **Figure 53** hold true in **Figure 54** as well.

DJJ Placement Types for Committed and Probated Youth by Year (Number)

Source: JORI

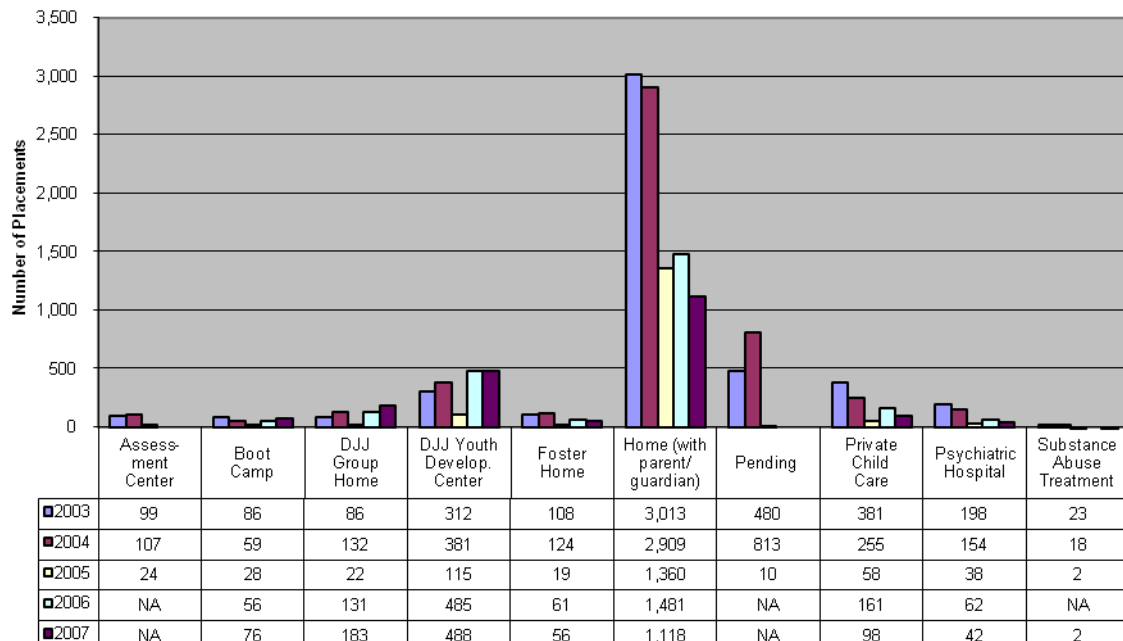


Figure 54

Figure 55 reveals the number of youth committed and probated to DJJ by age category. Over the five-year period, the number of youth aged 10-12 and 16-18 committed and probated to DJJ decreased dramatically (70.0% for 10-12 and 60.3% for 16-18). The number of youth between the ages of 13 and 15 committed and probated to DJJ during that same time period decreased for the first three years and increased slightly from 2006 to 2007.

Placement of DJJ Committed and Probated Youth by Age Range

Source: JORI

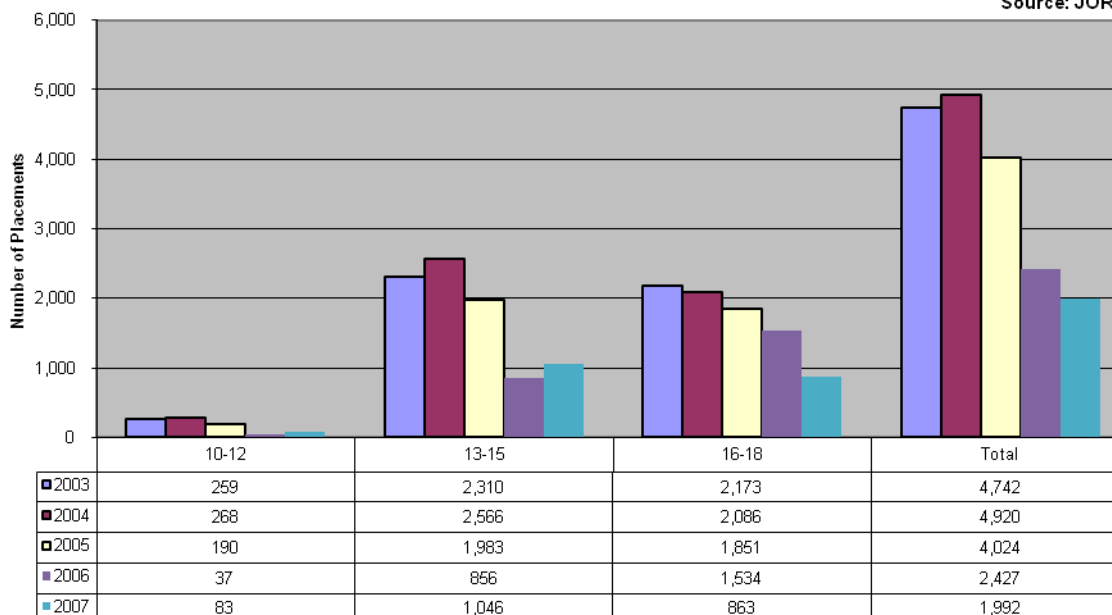


Figure 55

In **Figure 56**, the proportion of youths committed and probated in 2007 is presented by racial/ethnic group for each of the identified settings. The last bar on the graph provides the overall proportion by race/ethnicity of the DJJ committed and probated youth. White youth are over-represented in psychiatric hospitals and substance abuse treatment, while black youth are over-represented in all other categories.

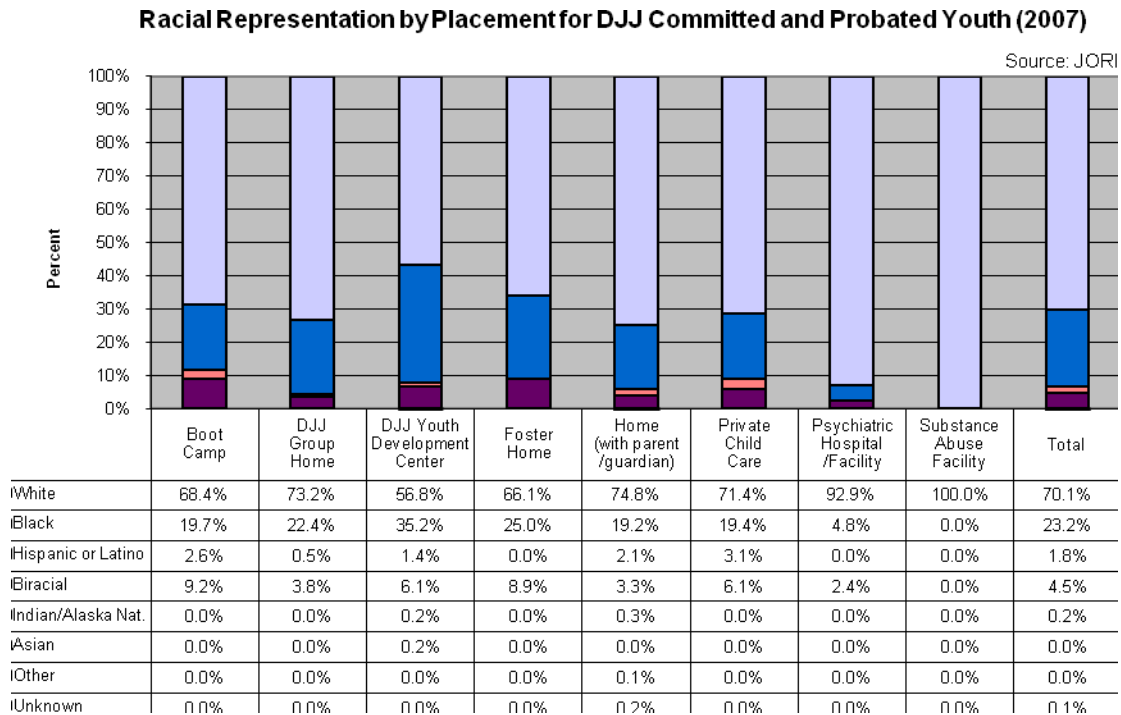


Figure 56

Alternative to Residential Placement Outcomes

For the first time, in this report we were able to provide data regarding the prevalence and types of alternative to placement outcomes. These data are presented in **Figures 57-63**.

Alternatives to Detention (ATD) by Type of Service for 2007 are presented in **Figure 57**. The results presented in the figure indicate that almost three in four (73.9%) youths who received an alternative to detention were given electronic monitoring; the remainder of the placements was split between emergency shelter (12.3%) and foster care (13.9%). The results presented in **Figure 58** display ATDs by Gender. As expected, the majority of youths sentenced to each ATD, although the percentage of youths receiving foster care that were female (33.7%) was higher than that percentage for the other two types of ATD (24.7% for electronic monitoring and 21.5% for emergency shelter).

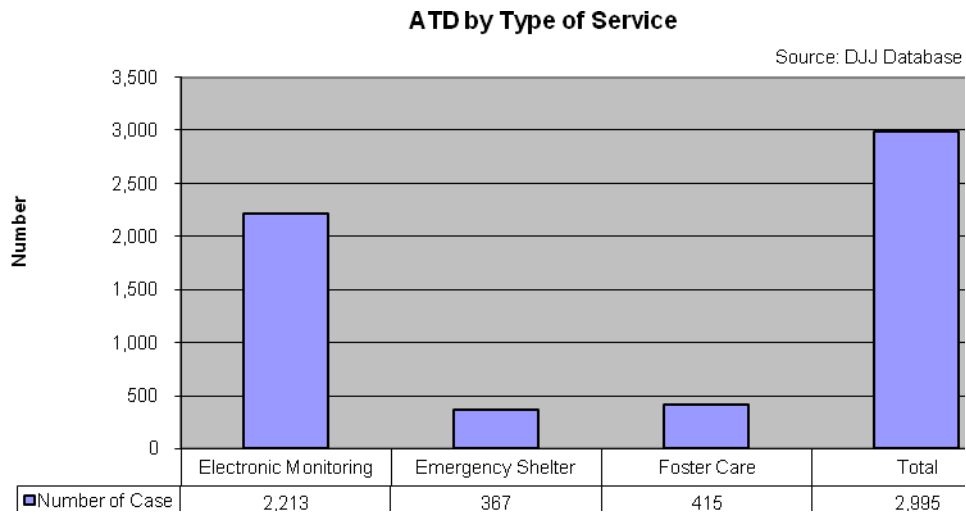


Figure 57

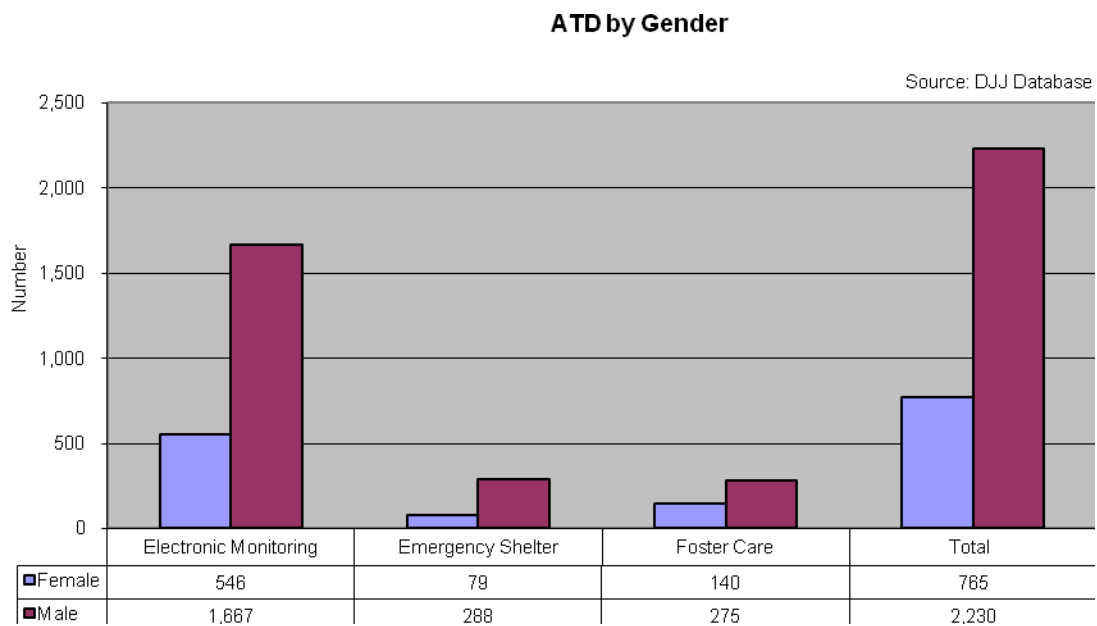


Figure 58

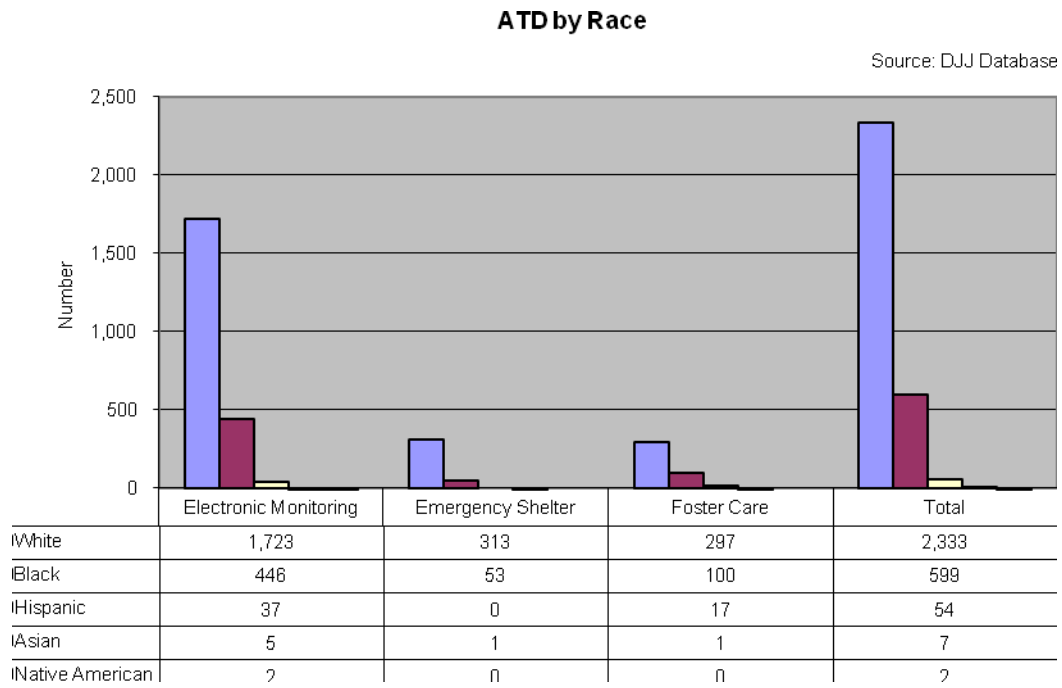


Figure 59

The results presented in **Figure 59** display ATD types by race. The vast majority of youths receiving each ATD were white (77.9% for electronic monitoring, 85.3% for emergency shelter, and 71.6% for foster care). Blacks were disproportionately represented in both foster care placement (24.1%) and electronic monitoring (20.2%).

ATD by Reason for discharge

Source: DJJ Database

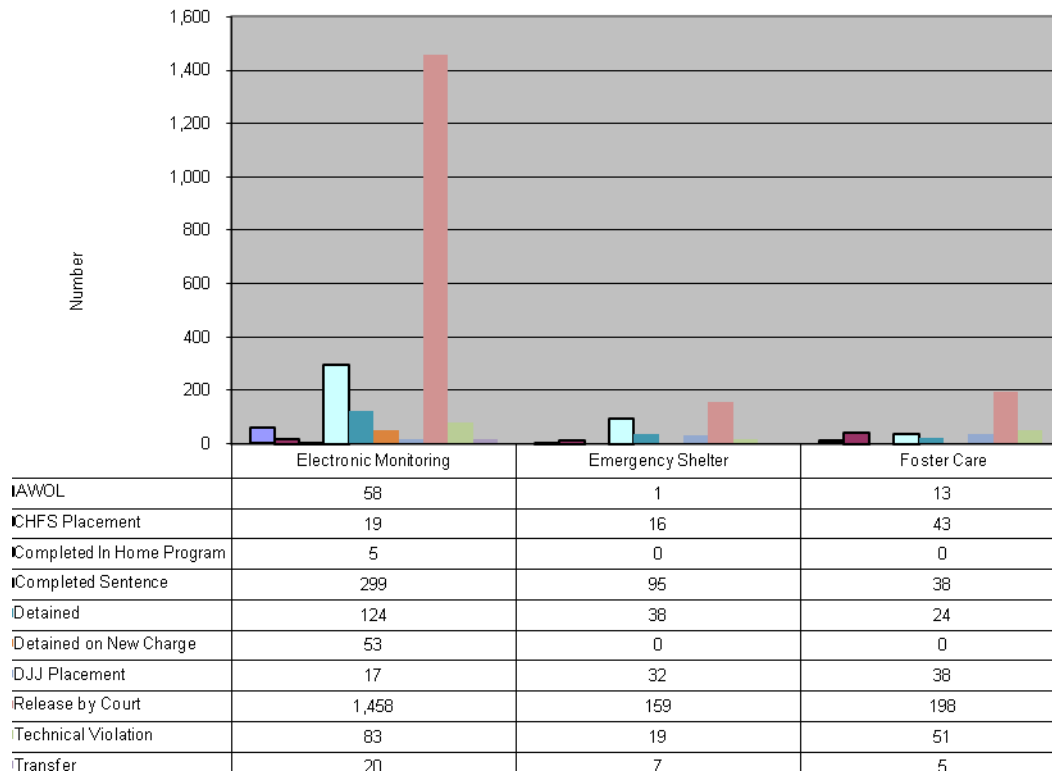


Figure 60

The types of discharge that ATD youths received are presented in **Figure 60**. The vast majority of those released for each ATD were released by the court. Youths are generally released by the court because (1) they have completed their electronic monitoring placement successfully or (2) they were returned to the court during their placement and were released by the court. Two thirds (68.3%) of the youths released for electronic monitoring were released by the court; almost half of the youths for the other two ATDs (43.3% of youths released from emergency shelter and 48.3% of the youths released from foster care) were also released by the court. Although one in four youths (25.9%) were released from emergency shelters because they had completed their sentences, only one in seven youths released from electronic monitoring (14.0%) and 1 in 10 youths released from foster care (9.3%) were released because they had completed their sentence.

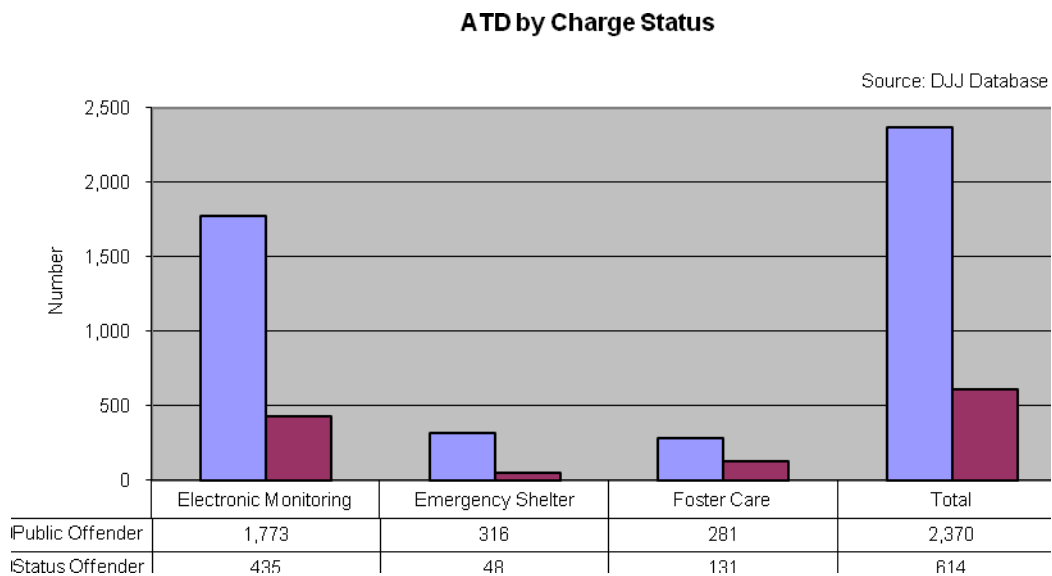


Figure 61

The number of youths receiving ATD by charge status is presented in **Figure 61**. Approximately four in five youths receiving electronic monitoring and emergency shelter (80.1% and 86.1%, respectively) were charged with public offenses; two in three (67.7%) youths receiving foster care were charged with public offenses. The number of youths receiving ATD by court status is presented in **Figure 62**. The vast majority of the youths receiving electronic monitoring (83.7%) and foster care (84.1%) did so prior to their disposition. Slightly over half (57.2%) of youths receiving emergency shelter did so prior to their disposition; two in five (42.0%) youths that received emergency shelter received that placement after their disposition hearing.

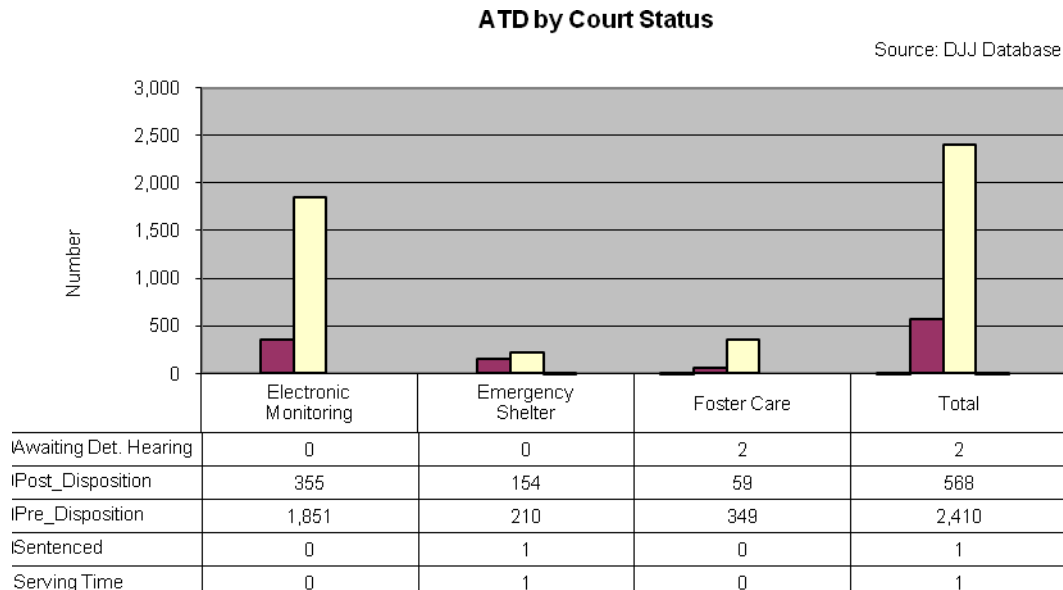


Figure 62

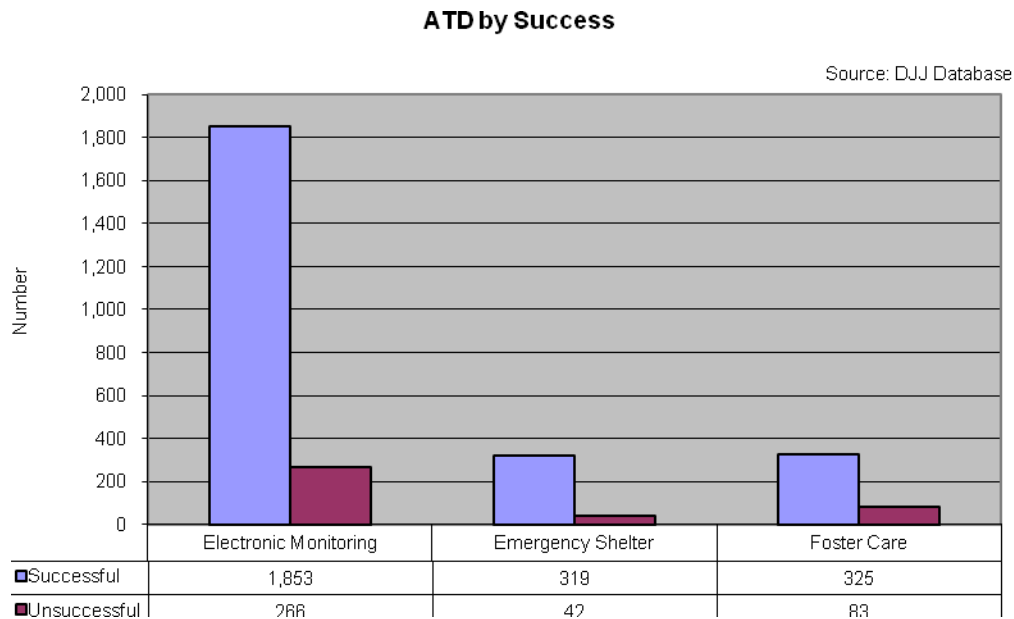


Figure 63

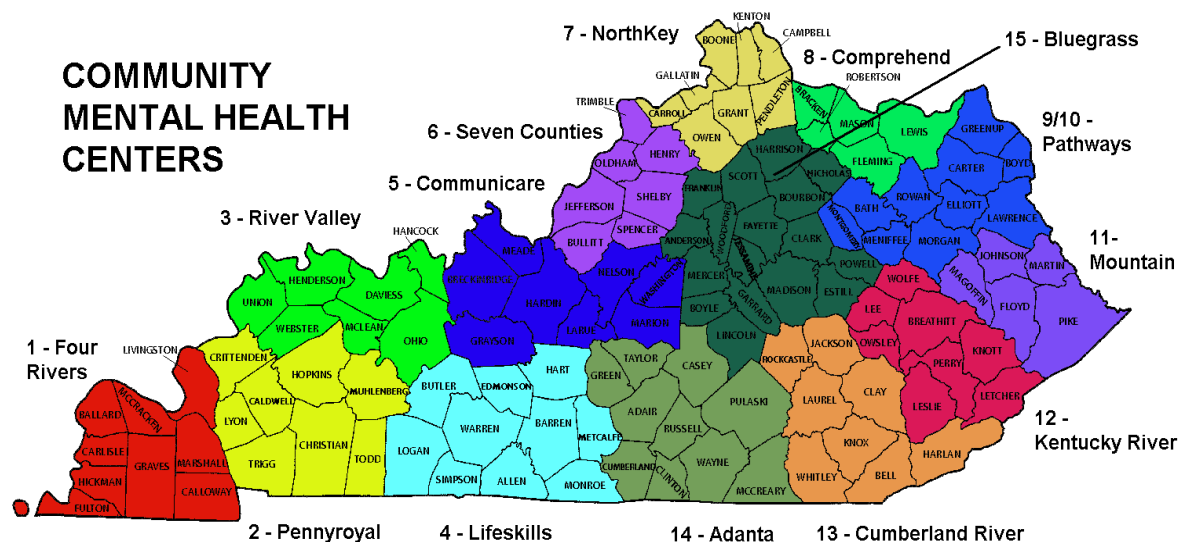
The proportion of youths that were successful in completing the ATD placement is presented in **Figure 63**. A youth is considered to have successfully completed an ATD placement when they: (1) are not Absent Without Leave (AWOL) from their placement; (2) do not have a technical violation that returns them to detention; (3) do not incur any new charges; and (4) are returned to court for their court date. For each placement, approximately four in five youths were successful

in that placement (87.4% for electronic monitoring, 88.4% for emergency shelter, and 79.7% for foster care).

VI. Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Access for DJJ Youth and Youth at Risk

The Department for Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services (DMHMRS) contracts with the Research and Data Management Center at the University of Kentucky to collect and analyze data from the state's 14 regional community mental health and mental retardation centers. These centers provide mental health, substance abuse and mental retardation services to individuals throughout the commonwealth. Below is a map of the regional boundaries of the 14 centers (**Figure 57**).



Although not presented graphically here, the data obtained from the DMHDS for 2007 suggest that the rates for youth receiving mental health treatment services are much higher than the rates for youth receiving substance abuse treatment services statewide. These rates also vary dramatically by region, as the market penetration rates in the Comprehend, Pathways, Kentucky River, and Adanta regions are much higher than the statewide average for both mental health services and substance abuse treatment services while market penetration rates are much lower than the statewide average in Four Rivers, Pennyroyal, and Northkey regions for mental health treatment and in Pennyroyal, River Valley, and Seven Counties regions for substance abuse treatment.

One of the factors contributing to the higher number of mental health services (when compared to substance abuse treatment services) throughout the state is the availability of reimbursement. With the exception of a relatively small number of youth who are served through the EPSDT (early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment) program, Medicaid does not cover substance abuse treatment for youth. Medicaid, however, is a significant resource for eligible youth who need a mental health services and many youth who are coded as receiving treatment for mental health services for reimbursement purposes receive substance abuse treatment at the same time.

Figure 58 depicts the number of youth who received a substance abuse service from one of Kentucky's 14 community mental health centers (CMHCs) during fiscal year 2007. The services are described in Table 10. The most frequently delivered services to youth with a substance abuse diagnosis were individual therapy and diagnostic interviews. These numbers are unduplicated by service only: if a youth receives more than one service, he/she will be counted in more than one column.

Number of Youth Receiving CMHC Substance Abuse Service: 2005-2007

Source: CMHC Database

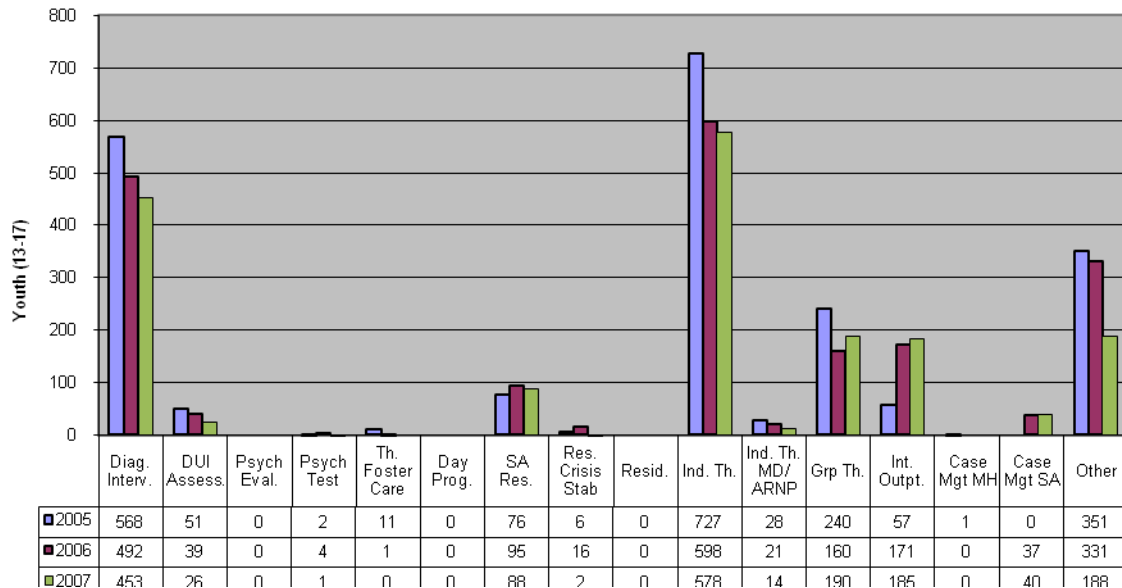


Figure 65

Table 11. Table of Explanation of CMHC Substance Abuse Services

Abbreviation	Service	Service Description
Diag. Interv.	Diagnostic Interview	Youth participate in detailed interview to determine what services are needed
DUI Assess	DUI Assessment	Youth was committed because of dui and is receiving services to assess alcohol-related issues
Psych. Eval	Psychological Evaluation	Youth was ordered to undergo psychological evaluation as a result of their commitment
Psych. Test	Psychological Testing	Youth was ordered to undergo specific psychological tests as part of their commitment
Th. Foster Care	Therapeutic Foster Care	Youth was placed in foster care where parents have a smaller number of placements in the home and have received extensive training to deal with mental health issues
Day Prog.	Day Programming	Youth are required to report to Juvenile Probation Office to undergo treatment and counseling services
SA Res.	Substance Abuse Residential	Youth are sent to residential treatment center where they receive intensive substance abuse treatment
Res. Crisis Stab.	Residential Crisis Stabilization Unit	Youth are sent to residential treatment center where they receive acute, short-term substance

		abuse treatment to stabilize youth for care in residential treatment centers
Ind. Th.	Individual Therapy	Youth receive one-on-one counseling with a mental health professional
Ind. Th./MD ARNP	Individual Therapy	Youth receive individual therapy with a medical doctor or advanced registered nurse practitioner.
Grp. Th.	Group Therapy	Youth receive counseling with mental health professionals in a group setting
Int. Outpt.	Intensive Outpatient Therapy	Youth receive intensive mental health services outside of a residential mental health center
Case Mgt. MH	Case Management Mental Health	Youth receive case management services for mental-health related issues
Case Mgt. SA	Case Management Substance Abuse	Youth receive case management services for substance abuse issues
Other	Other services not classified in any previous category	A series of miscellaneous treatment services and outcomes not classified in any previous category

The numbers displayed in the graph above pertain to youth with a substance abuse (alcohol or other drug) diagnosis. As portrayed in the pie graph below (**Figure 59**), this is only a small portion of the youth served by the CMHCs. Remember, however, that many youth who are coded as receiving treatment for mental health services for reimbursement purposes from Medicaid receive substance abuse treatment at the same time.

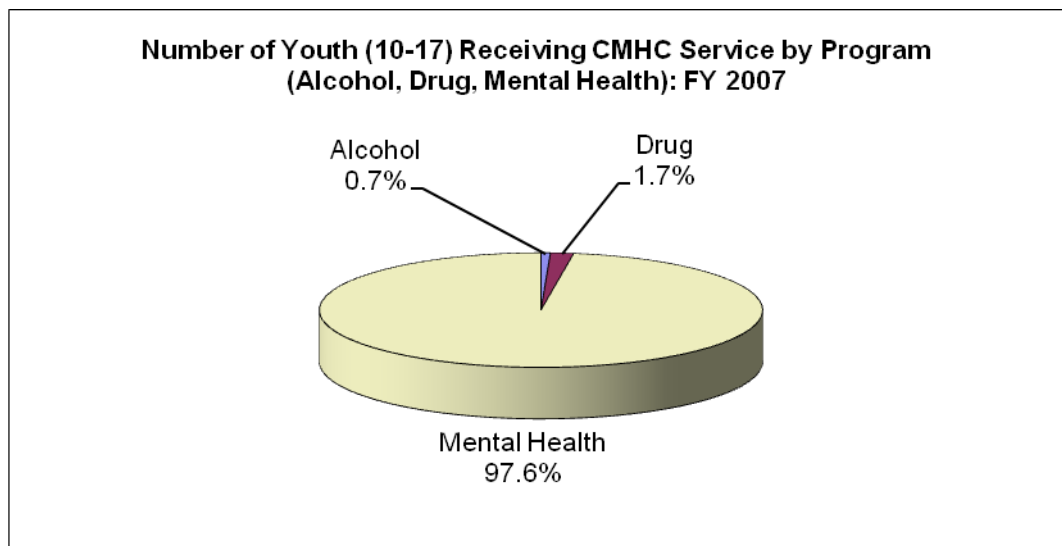


Figure 66

CMHC Services to DJJ Youth

The next two graphs (**Figures 60 and 61**) describe actual services received by DJJ youth. More than half (53.6%) of these youth had received individual therapy at some point in time, many with additional psychiatric services. A smaller portion received group therapy, and a small subset received services in specialized service programs in a couple of regions.

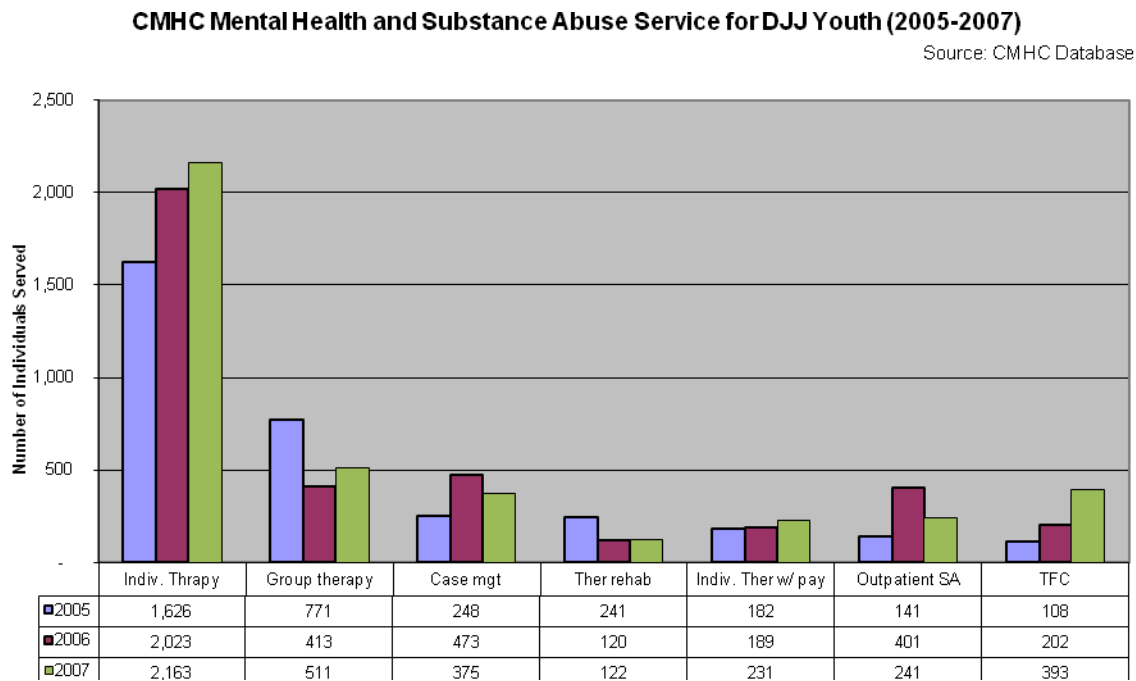


Figure 67

The distribution of DJJ youth by program is indicated in the graph below. Over two in three (68.1%) DJJ youth were served in the mental health program, while one in four (25.2%) were served in the substance abuse programs (alcohol and drugs).

CMHC Services to DJJ Youth by Program (2005-2007)

Source: CMHC Database

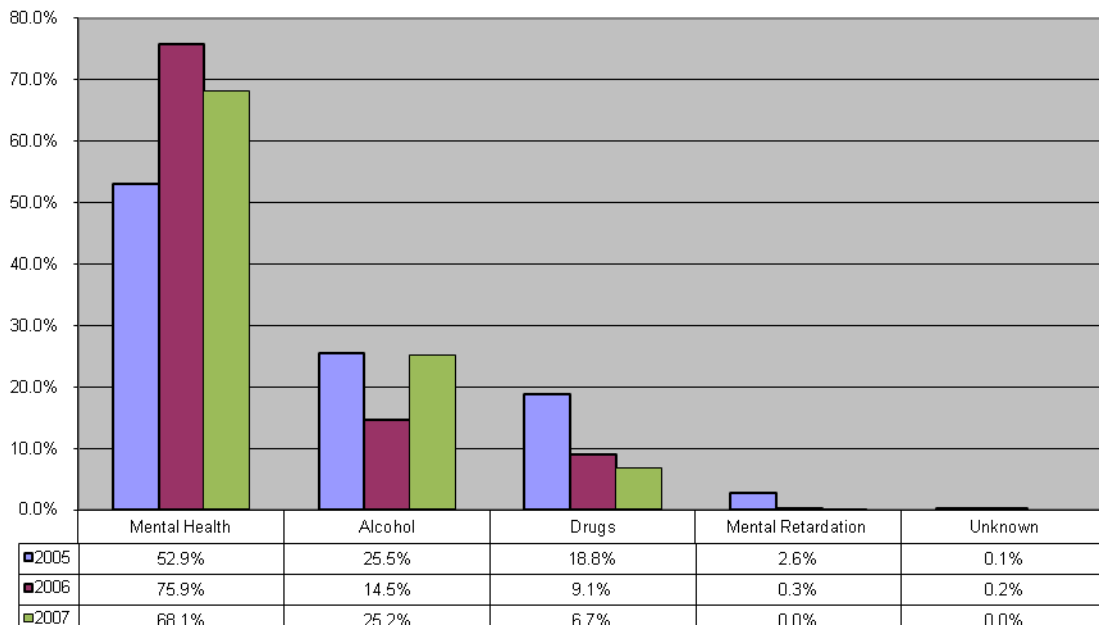


Figure 68

VII. Recommendations for Improving Future Analyses

In this report, we have continued an unprecedented effort to take a comprehensive look at the interagency involvement of a large cohort of youth in Kentucky. We were aided in this effort by the fact that agencies across government have devoted considerable time and resources to the creation of the systems that are useful to administrators and that are responsive to the increasing calls for accountability. Without these data collection efforts by these key agencies, a report of this magnitude would be impossible. As such, we commend these agencies for the progress they have made in their automated data systems. We are also indebted to the R.E.A.C.H. authors that wrote an earlier version of this report (R.E.A.C.H., 2005) for the framework of the report and the often difficult steps the R.E.A.C.H. research staff took in laying the foundation for a report of this magnitude.

Consequently, the problems/suggestions identified below are presented against a background of appreciation for the progress that has been made and those who were instrumental in those efforts. Nevertheless, despite this progress, there are still a number of areas of improvement that are needed.

As both we and the R.E.A.C.H. authors suggested earlier, the systems in place within the state agencies providing data for this effort are ambitious in terms of the data being requested. However, many of the fields continue to have missing data, and any analysis is compromised by the incompleteness of the data. Continuing efforts to make staff accountable for both complete and accurate data are needed to insure that data used for accountability purposes are as valid as possible in the context in which they are collected. Secondly, following the suggestions of the R.E.A.C.H. research staff, wherever possible, system flags need to be incorporated into the data bases that will reject impossible/question improbable responses. For example, youth should have birthdates within a range that is possible for inclusion in the system. Forced choices and drop down menus were extremely helpful in securing data that could be analyzed. This methodology should continue to be used whenever practical.

One limitation of these data (primarily due to the problem described above) became readily apparent during our discussions with DJJ personnel in the final drafting of the report.

In **Table 11** below, data regarding mental health and substance abuse services provided by DJJ are presented. These data (from the second half of 2006) suggest a large number of substance abuse and mental health services that are provided by DJJ but may or may not be captured in the data regarding mental health services and substance abuse treatment from the agencies that provided the data for the analyses above. These discussions also revealed that all state agencies (not just DJJ) would benefit by better data collection about substance abuse and mental health treatment programs, as it is very difficult for any representative of a state agency to speak confidently about the number of clients impacted by their own agencies. As such, it is essential that all state agencies work together to capture the best data about substance abuse and mental health treatment possible and share that data whenever possible.

As we suggested last year (May & Chen, 2008), it is essential that all state agencies serving youth have a standardized memorandum of understanding (MOU) and release of confidential information forms so that data sharing between state agencies is more efficient and less problematic. Anecdotal evidence from the various partners involved in the data compilation for this effort continues to suggest that this data sharing process has improved but further effort should be taken to continue this process in the future.

Additionally, as we suggested previously, data dictionaries and codebooks should be readily available to users and those analyzing data (people who input the data and people who retrieve and analyze the data) if data entry is to be useful and data interpretation is to be meaningful.

Subcontractors who compile agency reports should also be required to make these codebooks available to the agency as part of the contract to produce the report. Some agencies and subcontractors have these available; others do not. These dictionaries are a ready reference for understanding codes that are used (when numbers or abbreviations are used in lieu of words). Our own experience in the creation of a codebook for both the previous reports and this report suggest that this codebook is an invaluable tool, and all agencies should move toward their own codebook for each dataset they produce.

We share the experience of the R.E.A.C.H. researchers who found it easier to track the pathway of the charge than the pathway of the child. Much of the information in the justice system is built on the charge data, and tracks the charge (rather than the youth) through the system to a disposition. No doubt, this is essential and we also understand that the disposition that affects the placement outcome of the youth can change as new charges are incurred or as a youth is released from commitment or probation. Although this process has improved in the past two years, it remains somewhat difficult to identify a single/primary disposition for a youth (rather than a charge) at a particular point in time.

Finally, we continue to believe the suggestion provided by R.E.A.C.H. (2005) and ourselves (May & Chen, 2008) that any similar process in the future could benefit from an even closer working relationship between the contracted evaluators and the managers and users of the data systems. In this particular project, concerns about confidentiality among one agency severely hampered the process and limited the effectiveness of the report because of the timeliness with which they provided the data. As suggested by the previous report's authors, future projects would benefit from access to a core group of agency staff (or, even better, one key contact person whose sole responsibility is to consolidate the data between agencies and facilitate data analysis) in specific and time-limited ways, by serving as consultants to the consultants. Our own experience is that a move toward that situation that has occurred in the past two years has benefited both the authors and the affected agencies. Our extensive dialogue with DJJ personnel was immensely helpful for providing context for the report and strengthening our confidence in its findings.

Nevertheless, one essential element of the report that would provide needed context and areas for consideration remains unavailable and serves as a good exemplar of the aforementioned suggestion. During our conversations with various agencies in compiling this report, we discovered that the State Police stopped collecting data at the level of specificity needed for juvenile justice issues because they were unaware that other agencies needed those data. We have now begun to work on filling that "gap" in the juvenile justice data; nevertheless, that lack of interagency communication that allowed that key piece of data to be removed is further evidence that there is still work to be done in the area of interagency communication about data issues. If all agencies were to communicate with one another, and with those subcontractors that write the reports they use to help make decisions, each subsequent update of this report could be improved until all parties concerned were confident in the data reported here. Until that point is reached, there is always more room for improvement.

Table 12. Description of Mental Health Services for DJJ Youth (July-December, 2006)

Program	District/ MH Branch	# of Youth Assessed July - December 2006	SA Service Hours July - December 2006		
			Youth	Family	Total
COMMUNITY		2134	1333	737	2070
CENTRAL REGION	Adair YDC	174	28	123	151
	Adair RJDC	270	0	457	457
	Bowling Green GH	55	1	88	89
	Green River YDC	160	188	112	300
	Hardin Co.Day Treatment	54	0	4	4
	Lincoln Village YDC	143	0	0	0
	Lincoln Village RJDC	89	90	370	460
	Warren RJDC	38	149	142	291
EAST REGION	Ashland Day Treatment	67	36	149	185
	Ashland GH	43	73	125	198
	Bluegrass YDC	224	167	464	631
	Boyd RJDC	281	357	388	745
	Fayette RJDC	127	239	326	565
	Frenchburg GH	40	146	152	298
	Morehead YDC	142	178	199	377
	Woodsbend YDC	264	120	710	830
NORTH REGION	Audubon YDC	169	156	0	156
	Campbell RJDC	660	389	2201	2590
	Frankfort GH	46	84	94	178
	Louisville Day Treatment	142	68	81	149
	Northern KY Day Treatment	64	12	0	12
	Northern KY YDC	89	347	995	1342
	Westport GH	50	9	0	9
SOUTHEAST REGION	Burnside GH	58	162	481	643
	Breathitt RJDC	110	222	166	388
	CLEP	150	301	365	666
	Lake Cumberland YDC	244	715	905	1620
	Laurel RJDC	NA	NA	NA	NA
	London GH	61	0	541	541
	Middlesboro GH	48	168	96	264
WEST REGION	Christian Co. Day Treatment	148	4	0	4
	Hopkinsville GH	44	1	80	81
	Mayfield GH	40	266	433	699
	Mayfield YDC	173	111	475	586
	McCracken RJDC	684	130	644	774
	Owensboro Day Treatment	47	0	0	0
	Owensboro YDC	93	26	108	134
DJJ MENTAL HEALTH	Central Mental Health Branch	64	109	17	126
	East Mental Health Branch	86	195	34	229
	West Mental Health Branch	200	266	3	269
TOTAL		7,775	6,846	12,265	19,111

In closing, we want to thank the following persons for their assistance:

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as well as:

The Juvenile Justice Advisory Board
&
Stephanie Reynolds, DJJ Juvenile Justice Specialist

We appreciate the opportunity to be involved in this initiative. There is much more information to be gleaned from the data that was made available, but it was beyond the scope of this project. We trust that the groundwork that has been laid by DJJ and the JJAB in the undertaking of a cross-agency analysis will pave the way for additional research into the experiences and outcomes of youth involved in Kentucky's juvenile justice system.

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